THE WEEKLY COMMERCIAL.

A LARGE SHEET CONTAINING ALL THE CURRENT NEWS, MISCELLANEOUS, LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE, AND VALUABLE READING FOR THE FAMILY.

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THE GREAT ENCHANTER.

Sleep makes us all pashas.—*Bedouin Proverb.*
Sleep is the poor man's warmest cloak;
His treasurer to dispense
His lavish alms, and turns to gold
His scanty pence.

He heals the sick man in a dream,
And sets the fettered free;
He calls the beggar from his den
To golden luxury.

He crowns the hounded exile king,
Reverses Fate's decrees;
And bids the bricdless pleader rise
Judge of the Common Pleas.

Sleep joins the parted lovers' hands;
Wreathes the starved poet's brow;
And calls the hero still unknown
From the lonely village plow.

Sleep holds the resurrection keys,
And from his shadowy plain,
Down Memory's long aisle unfolds,
The dead come back again.

Sleep comes, like death, alike to all—
Divine equality!
Blesses the monarch in his state,
The slave upon the sea.

Sleep brings our childhood back again
The unity Golden Age;
Sleep! O thou blessed alchemist,
Thou holy Archimage!

—*Chambers's Journal.*

ROBIN'S RETURN.

There's not a green blade yet
Where'eighorn a berry or would play
The bare brown earth it wet
With the rain of yesterday;
But out on the apple bough
A sound more sweet than rain!
Hark to the overflow,
Robin's come again.

Snow on the mountain side,
Never a leaf on tree,
Never a spray to hide
A nook where a nest may be;
Only a hint, 'tis true,
That bough is not in vain,
A sky more soft and blue,
Robin's come again.

O, Robin, he can sing
Where not a flower can thrive;
Musician of the spring,
The hidden lives;
The March winds soft or blow
Over the empty plain,
A summer day or so,
Robin's come again.

The white he exroleth,
The beards are lighter grown,
We almost feel the breath
Of visits to new-blown;
He sings the songs we knew,
The earliest, gladdest strain;
Oh, old friends are the true,—
Robin's come again.

—*Springfield Republican.*

The Trichiniasis.

Dr. Edward Hitchcock of Amherst college has examined a portion of the muscle taken from the body of Miss Ida Hall, who died in Springfield Mass. last week, and found the trichinæ in it in large numbers. He fully agrees with most of our resident physician's that the young lady's death was caused by the terrible disease, trichiniasis, and furnishes the following interesting and descriptive account of it:—

The disease known as trichiniasis is caused by the presence of a minute parasite infesting the voluntary muscles. The name of this animal is trichina spiralis, and indits popular acceptation may be called a minute worm, somewhat like common worms in appearance. This animal was first made known to the world by Prof Richard Owen of the British museum, London, in 1835, and has been subsequently studied minutely by Drs Bowditch and Wyman of Boston, and Dr. Dalton of New York. The animals which the trichina most commonly infests are man and the common hog, though it has been found in other domestic animals, as a rule however most commonly introduced into the human system by using some preperation of pork as an article of food. It probably can be introduced only through the intestines, and not through the skin. Its tenacity of life, like that of some of the lower animals, is not a little remarkable, since it withstands the temperature of 160 Fahrenheit, and is not killed by a temperature of 13 degrees below zero. Various chemical substances, even thosethat partially decomposse the muscle, including common salt, are not injurious to it, and smoking of meats does not destroy it. Trichiniasis has never prevailed extensively in this country, but has been well known in northern Germany and Prussia, and sometimes in France. And in those countries where sausages and hams are common articles of diet, and especially when eaten uncooked, this disease is well known. Indeed it is safe to say that if a person will eat ham, sausages or any portion of the meat of the hog in a raw or partially cooked condition, he runs a great risk of inviting upon himself this very uncomfortable disease.

The trichina, when it arrives at its adult or perfect state surrounds itself with a cyst or sac, in which it remains indefinitely, and if chance favors its entrance into the stomach of another animal, it commences anew its cycle or development, otherwise it perishes. It is necessary, then, for the development of the trichina, that it be ingested into the stomach of another animal, from which it bores through the stomach and bowels, and ultimately reaches its destination in the muscles of the body. Such trichina is capable of producing from 400 to 1000 young. After the trichinous food has been eaten, in the course of a week the young are hatched and commence seeking their "habitat" in the muscles.

As already mentioned, these animals, when in their perfect state, become encysted, or lodged in a little bladder. They remain in this condition without destroying the individual in whom they live, the "host" may recover from the disease. In the case of Miss Ida Hall none of them so far as ascertained, had gained this stage of the disease, but had destroyed her life in the earlier stages of it. Some authors state that as many as 7,500 trichinæ have been discovered in the muscles of a square inch, while others think of an inch thick. But probably in this case from Springfield the number scarcely exceeded one-half that number. There are two stages of this disease when it runs its course. First, one of intense pain in the stomach and bowels, and, second, that of muscular irritation. The first is probably owing the the passage of the trichinæ upon and through the walls of the intestine, and the latter due to the vermicular motion through the fibers of the muscles. In the first stage, within a week or ten days after the ingestion of the trichinous food, patients may be very much like those of cholerine. There is pain, sickness of the stomach, vomiting, diarrhea, fetid breath, heartburn, &c., or the symptoms like a severe cold or the influenza. In the second stage there is a swelling or puffiness of the face, especially about the eyes, and sometimes it extends to the throat and vocal passages, so that it produces a hoarseness of the voice. A great fever heat rages, and the pulse is accelerated to 134, and respiration from 30 to 36. Violent perspiration is also a symptom of this stage. But the most remarkable features are seen in the muscles, which become swollen, hard and painful, the patient suffering agony upon any pressure or attempt to move the limbs, and lying generally upon the back. Death may occur from paralysis or typhoidal symptoms.

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THE GREAT REPUBLIC.

The Return Trip to Cairo and St. Louis---Scenes and Incidents.

Special correspondence of the "Commercial."
ON BOARD THE "GREAT REPUBLIC," }
April 10, 1867. }

CAIRO, ILL.

To-day we arrived at this place, having left New Orleans on Thursday last; accidents to the machinery, dark nights and fog, have kept us much longer on the road than we anticipated.

AT NEW ORLEANS.

Our stay at New Orleans was very pleasant. Fortunately, the weather was clear, and sunshine was something of a curiosity to us, who had experienced almost continual falling weather since our departure from Pittsburgh; I may say that it was duly appreciated. It was a little too warm for us at times; but, notwithstanding, most of the excursionists spent the entire time in circumambulating the city, and seeing all the sights. The Shell road, the Lake and the French market came in for a full share of admiration. In the latter place we all partook of a cup of coffee, for which the place is celebrated, at daylight in the morning. We also indulged in all the fruits, and luxuriated in fresh vegetables, strawberries, and other delicacies peculiar to the climate at this season of the year. I may be excused for mentioning the fact that we were evidently recognized as strangers by the dealers in desirable articles, who didn't forget to charge us. Such, however, is the usual fate of travelers in strange parts, and all hands bore the little impositions without a murmur.

During our stay at the Cresecnt city, our Great Republic was visited by thousands of the citizens, and elicited universal admiration. She is, without doubt, the largest and most magnificent river craft that ever arrived at New Orleans.

LEAVING.

Many hours before we left New Orleans every stateroom and berth on the boat was taken, and scores of applicants were refused on account of the want of accommodations. Our own party of excursionists was somewhat depleted by the departure of some of the gentlemen, who return by way of Havana and New York, and the "Lazy Loafers',—an association which I mentioned in a former letter—lost most of its laziness, and hence, most important members. We had still enough left to make a clever party, and as all were very much fatigued with the course of sight seeing which we had passed through, there were few or no regrets at our starting up the river.

There was nothing of special notice on our trip up the river, with the exception of the magnificent way which rotatchie's impositive power a little, until on arrival at Greenville, Miss., on Sunday afternoon. Here we halted for an hour to repair the machinery, and as we had twenty-four hours, which to receive proper attention, many of the passengers wandered ashore. In the course of our perambulation we were attracted to a small shanty, wherein a large congregation of citizens of African descent were holding meetings and doing some very fair shouting. Curiosity, perhaps, as much as anything else, prompted us to enter the sanctified abode. We were received by the colored brethren, who provided seats for us, and then proceeded with the service. The room was probably twenty by twelve feet square, and as those who were admitted were all negroes, mostly colored ladies, assembled, your correspondent took a seat on a neighboring stump, outside, and listened to a sermon, which I take the liberty of terming a "rouser in its line." It was much enjoyed by all who heard it. The preacher was a large man, whose skin would rival in blackness the blackest of Auner's host, and his voice was "powerful." (I use the term advisedly) in a white neck-cloth of the most magnificent proportions. He was not what is called a beautiful man by any means, and a pair of brass pinnacled spectacles which bridged his nose added little to his appearance that was commendable. He was evidently sincere though, and that made up for his lack of beauty.

A DONATION.

At the close of the meeting a collection was taken up from among the assembled passengers of the "Republic." A clever sum was realized and presented to the minister with instructions that a liberal share should be appropriated for the education speech was made by J. W. Kirkpatrick, Esq., of Pittsburgh.

A PITIFUL PICTURE.

Before the conclusion of the services, the minister announced that there was a poor woman lying sick in the town who needed assistance, and that a collection would be taken up for her benefit. No sooner had the announcement been made, than one of the passengers standing outside, went around among the few gentlemen who were present, and in a few moments collected the sum of $9, which was handed to the poor woman, who stood in the door of the sick woman. The announcement that there was a person in distress, awakened a feeling of interest in the hearts of the philanthropic ladies present, and they seized upon the opportunity to visit the unfortunate woman. What a sight met their eyes! A mere pallet of little shanty, which a few days before had been inundated by the flood, the poor creature lay upon the ground, with nothing between her and the damp floor but a miserable shuck of an inch thick. But probably in this case from Springfield the number scarcely exceeded one-half that number. There are two stages of this disease in it runs its course. First, one of intense pain in the stomach and bowels, and, second, that of muscular irritation. The first is probably owing the the passage of the trichinæ upon and through the walls of the intestine, and the latter due to the vermicular motion through the fibers of the muscles. In the first stage, within a week or ten days after the ingestion of the trichinous food, patients may be very much like those of cholerine. There is pain, sickness of the stomach, vomiting, diarrhea, fetid breath, heartburn, &c., or the symptoms like a severe cold or the influenza. In the second stage there is a swelling or puffiness of the face, especially about the eyes, and sometimes it extends to the throat and vocal passages, so that it produces a hoarseness of the voice. A great fever heat rages, and the pulse is accelerated to 134, and respiration from 30 to 36. Violent perspiration is also a symptom of this stage. But the most remarkable features are seen in the muscles, which become swollen, hard and painful, the patient suffering agony upon any pressure or attempt to move the limbs, and lying generally upon the back. Death may occur from paralysis or typhoidal symptoms.

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ADDRESS

Delivered Before the Allegheny County Teachers' Association, April 4th, 1867, the Third Evening of Their Meeting, in the Hall of the Third Ward School Building, Pittsburgh, Pa., by Rev. John B. Clark, of Allegheny City.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: We appear as a humble gleaner upon the field where reapers of experience and skill have toiled. If we may but pick up the few straggling straws which they have not bound in the harvest bundles, we may contribute a little to the common stock of nutriment, or if I bring not to your thesh-day feast one crumb untasted before, I would by my presence be understood as thidding you "good speed" in the grand work of education. As I stand in the presence of this learned association my mind reverts to the period when my mother led me by the hand, the first day of my school boy life. The house was a miserable cabin, seated with slabs from the saw mill, lighted with a dozen panes of glass and floored with sufficient apertures to allow free passage to the rats without the labor of gnawing the punchеons. The teacher was none of your young upstarts, but a venerable man on whose brow sat the frown of storm, and in whose grasp shook the rod of wrath. With him the chief end of a school teacher was to scold and whip. When we saw him spring to his feet and heard him utter his favorite salutation, "you tremendous pestlent," we who were always good children, understood that some of the bad ones were about to be hurt. His name was Lightner, and judging by the blue stripes on the wrong shades of humanity in that room, he was a lightner full of lightning. But, according to the notions of that day, he was the right man in the right place. Preachers, parents and teachers, all seemed to have the same idea about whipping that the glutton had about dumplings, the more the better. The idea too prevailed that a little learning was useful, while much education was not only a curse to the individual, but to the community. He was not behind in his views in parents in every way to have their children taught to "read, write and cipher" as the only needful thing beyond this was regarded as a mark of pride—as a serious threatening of the school committee that "our children shall not these days there were not a few in the churches who looked upon all learning as of the devil and his angels. As a specimen let me narrate the following: In the county of Lancaster, in this State, a society was formed and erected a house of worship; it was seated with the best workmen that could be obtained for a gentleman who was a carpenter. He made for himself and family a seat behind the door, and for many years on every Sabbath they occupied it, the people in holy wrath threatened to mob him. They seemed to think that a man could not be a saint whose back was not self-supporting. Parents and teachers, ministers and people, all alike traveled away from such notions in church and State. Progress has become the watchword of the age. As step by step the earth has reached its present state, from the magnificent days when it was a mere mass of forms and void, so many of the baleful fetters which imprisoned the world of intellect have been unbound. It is no longer considered a crime in the theater of freedom in thought—of general and ceaseless investigation. The most orthodox now deem it lawful to instruct the pupil in all principles which he may need in the affairs of life, and the teacher of today not only commune with the stars which twinkle in the firmament, but also with the worms which crawl in the earth, and with the fishes which swim in the sea. Science, in this country, is no longer confined to the privileged few, but is open to the million. Colleges, academies and public schools are multiplied on every hand, and the means of education are brought within the reach of all. Such is the progress of the age, and such the facilities for its advancement, that all who are not willfully blind must see and gladly avail themselves of the privileges which are offered them. Ignorance is a disgrace to the individual, and a curse to the community. Every man should be educated to the full measure of his capacity, and every woman should be educated to the full measure of her capacity, and every child should be educated to the full measure of its capacity, and every child should be educated to the full measure of its capacity, and every child should be educated to the full measure of its

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 1867.

THE NEXT ELECTION---PRELIMINARY STEPS.

The Republican Central Committee of Allegheny county, will meet Saturday to designate the time for selecting delegates to the State Convention, and fix the time for holding the County Convention, and for selecting delegates to the same. As to the former, there can be no difference of opinion, but as to the latter—that is, the time when the County Convention should meet—there may not at once be so much unanimity. In our judgment, the Convention should be held so as to give, at the most, a six weeks' campaign. We think it will be generally conceded that experience in local affairs is decidedly against a longer period than this between nomination and election. In most of the other large States, the practice, as a general thing, has been to place the two even nearer together, and let a month suffice in which to prosecute the canvass for local officers. We will not discuss the reasons, because where there has been so much experience they must occur to the minds of all.

The Committee at the ensuing meeting will do its duty best by naming a late day—not longer than six weeks before the day of election—for the County Convention. The delegates to the State Convention may be chosen at any time, so that they reach the Convention. The Committee cannot be ignorant of the state of the public mind on matters related to its action,—and it would seem to be beyond a question that the welfare of the Republican party will be most decidedly promoted by avoiding a long canvass—thus giving the Republicans of the county ample time to think matters over and prepare for action.

The frequent recurrence of elections—and the necessity for constant attention to the details of politics or suffer the penalty of neglect, tend to produce indifference on the part of those who in reality have the deepest interest in political affairs. It is about the hardest thing in the world to make men who complain most comprehend that the remedy is in their own hands, and that in not applying it they are simply guilty of inexcusable neglect.

The next election will be the initial one to the Presidential election. This fact, applied to Pennsylvania, has a peculiar significance; for, as the Key Stone State, in more respects than one, in the political arch, the influence exerted by her actual and prospective standing, has come to be well-nigh controlling. In other words, as Pennsylvania votes next fall—unless some peculiar reason operates to produce an unnatural result then—will she vote at the Presidential election.

Now, when for a single moment we reflect how much will depend on the next Presidential contest, these observations point out the importance of proceeding cautiously, and the whole duty of every single member of the Republican organization.

Circumstances have arisen which tend to weaken the Republican organization, not the least of them being the character of legislation for the last few years—last winter in particular. But as the Democrats are as culpable as the Republicans, they have no advantage in this respect, though no doubt they will attempt to make something out of the way affairs have been conducted at Harrisburg. When the Democrats are able to show they have opposed corrupt and unwise legislation; have been the defenders of the public welfare and have not shared in the "ring" performances which are so justly and universally odious, then they may be able, perhaps, to show why they may be trusted, and that by transfering the management of affairs to their hands the people will secure a remedy for the evils they endure. When they do *that* the Democrats may begin to talk—and not before.

That which is so much complained of has been the work of individuals—the result of bad selections in choosing Representatives at Harrisburg, and the party should not be made to suffer therefrom. This, by no means, is irremediable—indeed, the remedy is simple; but it can be made effective only by Republicans acting within their own party. When the Republican masses—especially those who have most at stake, but do least to have things go right—do their whole duty by attending primary meetings and placing in nomination only fit men to represent them, will the ground of complaint disappear, and not before.

The sort of men generally nominated and elected, we conclude, are generally samples of the conventions which nominate them, and of those who "fix things" beforehand, in particular. We are unwilling to admit decent men cannot, if they will, control the whole thing; at any rate, until they have undertaken it, they have not much right to complain. When they have tried and failed, then will they have a right to complain, and to take their remedy in whatever way they can and not make matters worse.

In a local and general sense, the thing to do is to start right. Surely nothing is so worthy of Republicans as the best good of the community. There is no valuable interest in the land that is not linked with that party; and Republicans, individually and collectively, can in no way so well prove themselves worthy of the continued trust which a confiding people have so long committed to them, as by lopping off whatever is unsound and elevating their standard of action.

EMIGRATION AND WAR.

A brick wall or even a stone one may be laid up too fast to be strong. And it is probably as true, that the population of a country may increase too rapidly for the vigor of its political health. It is supposed by some that the prospect of war in Europe will check the flow of immigration thence into this country. Others allege that it will be increased by that cause. Probably it would be if the people's will was as strong as that of Governments. But Governments are not accustomed to deplete their strength by allowing free emigration, when war is raising its demand for men at home. We consider it doubtful what the effect of European war would be on the great tide of emigration. Its diminution or its entire suspension for a time would not, so far as we can see, prove detrimental to any interest of our country.

We welcome immigrants and we admit to the full extent the benefits resulting from increase of population by that means. But the country gives no evidence of a lack of people in any department of useful industry. And so far as political, educational, social affairs are concerned, there does not seem to be any pressing need of demanding supply from that source. So that, should the threatened war in Europe necessitate the stoppage of emigration, no detriment would ensue from it to this republic. And in the mean time the assimilation to the American ideas and traditions would be happily going on and consolidating the people now here into a homogeneous and permanent political identity.

QUIETLY PROGRESSING.

Under the chosen method of adjusting the political condition of the Southern States, the military arm of the Government has nominally a conspicuous place. But there is no reason to fear that the coercive power will require application in reality, to any appreciable extent. Its functions appear to be more preventive than remedial, and in this respect, it will probably furnish confirmation to the maxim of practical philosophy, that an ounce of preventive is better than a pound of cure. The passive virtues, or rather the virtues of passivity, developed under the system already, give promise of ultimate results equal to the expectations of the Congress that adopted it. And in the end, we doubt not, it will prove to be the very thing demanded by the occasion, and the one best adapted to set the States concerned in their proper condition in the Union.

The Southern people are taking the right course, so far as this Government measure is concerned, in quietly acquiescing in it. They may desinate their course by what name they please—submission, obedience, indifference—but it is acquiescence, and that is what is best for all parties. The positive coercion will be an infinitesimal quantity compared with the moral and rational influence the plan will exert in restoring order, prosperity and contentment to the distracted States. It will prevent the collision of races which would otherwise have been almost certain. It will demonstrate that the interest and preference of the loyal people are in favor of the best conditions of political restoration for the Southern States, and it will show a determined and principled purpose on the part of the loyal people and Government to have the adjustment made on right grounds and in a right way.

"After such complete upturning of the foundations of society as has occurred, through the rebellion, in the Southern States, nothing less than a strong power was competent to govern efficiently. And especially was more power necessary than the States could exercise, even if they were willing, in disposing of those questions that were involved in the contest, and in defining the position of the materials of political society that were displaced by the war. Our general Government in repairing the evils resulting from this insurrectionary war is obliged to act for both parties; that is, for itself and the subdued insurgents. Herein is an occasion of embarrassment and of dissatisfaction that would not exist in a foreign war settled by treaty. But happily it is now in a fair way of securing the object aimed at—the restoration of the Union on grounds right and safe, and safe because right. The measure adopted is working as well as could be expected.

RISING OF THE BLACKS.

We do not speak of rising in the Fenian sense, of insurrection against the Government, but of the intellectual elevation and social improvement of the black race. By the reports given of their condition, they appear to have made surprising progress during the short period that has passed since they were legally endowed with manhood and ceased to be legally rated as chattel property. Numerous and convincing are the proofs of this. And they come from so many quarters, and are furnished by such opposite interests, that not the slightest doubt can be reasonably entertained of their general correctness.

One of the most recent illustrations of the stupendous change in the status of the black race is furnished in the fact, that a newspaper, known as the *South Carolinian*, has been purchased by a colored man, a Mr. NASH, and is henceforth to be conducted as a conservative negro organ. We note this as one of the marvels of the times. In the State of South Carolina, where the war to intensify negro slavery began, where nearly half the population, five years ago, were slaves and mere chattels, where it was a high misdemeanor to teach a negro to read,—in that very State a newspaper, with the distinctive title of the *South Carolinian*, is made the property of a colored man, and is employed to be the political organ of a party of the colored race! The only drawback in this peculiar case is, that the paper is to be the organ of *Conservative* negroes. If by conservative is meant Democratic, as antagonistic to Republican, the wisdom of the aspiration may well be called into doubt. If the blacks expect to rise, they must not tie to the Democratic party, which has always aided to keep them down in slavery. To attach themselves now to the Democratic party would be like lashing themselves to the anchor of a wrecked and sinking vessel.

As a class, they are probably less anxious to possess political privileges, than party politicians are to confer them upon them. But, conscious that their rising in the scale of social happiness depends mainly on intellectual and moral improvement, they are intently bent on getting education, learning to read and extending thereby their area of knowledge. This seems to be an instinctive aspiration among them, originating in their own minds. Their political aspirations are mainly suggested by extraneous influences, which betray their origin to be the party arms of white politicians.

The gratification felt on seeing the rising of the blacks, is accompanied by a sorrowful emotion occasioned by the low condition of a large portion of the whites in the South. The laudable incentives and aid furnished to the former by the hand of patriotic and benevolent people should be also extended to the latter, and then the rising of all classes of the population might be hoped for.

COTTON PROSPECTS.

Some of the journals in the Southern States are trying to persuade the farmers to turn their attention to the raising of grain crops and to general farming, and to desist, at least for a time, from cotton culture. In some respects, or rather to some extent, the advice is good, but that gives no assurance that it will be followed. In the reasons assigned for its support, it is weak and bad. The same thing has before, since the close of the rebellion, been proposed as a menace to the cotton manufacturing interests of the North. And it is not entirely disavowed from that connection at the present time. The tax on cotton is what produces the present irritation, and the scarcity of subsistence is laid hold of to give point and efficiency to the appeal in favor of grain raising and in opposition to cotton raising.

But if the farmers in the cotton States find it more profitable, as they doubtless will, to raise cotton, they will do it, and depend on buying the grain that they need. They will not neglect cotton because the Government will receive a small tax from the product, nor because the article is wanted in the North, provided it can be raised with profit to themselves. Their climate and soil and other advantages favorable to this crop, are such as to make grain raising and general farming comparatively unprofitable. Some of our Southern brethren give a good deal of might to bad political advice and to resentful passions, but it is hardly probable that they will sink so weighty a consideration as pecuniary profit in the mode of their farming.

THE recent adjournment of our Legislature and the unpleasant sensation still felt in consequence of some of its action, suggest the utterance of a sentiment which might be deemed more seasonable just before the fall elections. It is this, that the received *theory*, of the relation existing between public officers and their constituents is entirely different from current opinions and facts. It is a pleasant illusion to contemplate officers as servants of the people, delegated to give organic expression to their will, or to carry into effect their authoritative purposes. How quickly is that picture of fancy blurred and distorted by a glance into the journals of the late Legislature on subjects connected with railroad interests. Nor will the reality be brought into closer accord with the true theory till officers cease to be conferred as a mere reward for party services, without regard to the capacity or integrity of the aspirant. Unless the matter be taken hold of in season, and in the right way by the people themselves, and handled differently from what it has heretofore been, they will continue to be fooled and disappointed interminably.

THE friends of the President are not without some solicitude as to his health. None but the most pressing public business receives his attention, and his condition is the opposite to an improving one. In this connection the telegraph sends forward a little piece of intelligence of the most remarkable character. It is that "the President's system is rendered more delicate by his long abstinence from stimulants. The President has not even drank a glass of ale or wine for more than two years." After that, even Dr. BURLEIGH is expected to have nothing to say.

THE next point of interest for the universal moving Yankee is our newly acquired possessions in the Northwest. We can safely conclude that it will not be many years before that region will wear another appearance, and assume a real importance in the eyes of the whole world. What enterprise will do in developing its resources will be done. Already the Pacific Railroad people have new ideas given them and new prospects opened, by the acquisition of this new country, its relations to the trade of the East, and the bearings its development will have on the Pacific Road and its branches.

THE language imputed to Mr. JOHNSON, expressing the opinion that "the Democratic party has neither policy nor wisdom, and seems bent on destruction," sets rather sorely on some of that party. Misfortune makes them sensitive, and inclines them to be suspicious. The denial that Mr. JOHNSON said any such thing of the party does not involve the truth of the statement. If ever a party or a person indicated a lack of both policy and wisdom, it is the Democratic party. It is scarcely six weeks since it wiped away some of its most sincere tears for the loss of slavery, and it has not yet ceased to harp upon some of its old cracked strings, which excite nothing but the laughter of ridicule in the community. The party is the same that it was in its honorable days only in name. Its language is a dead language, and its aspirations belong only to a darker age than the present.

WE announce it as a veritable fact that the Democratic press and party are weaned of the epithet Abolitionist. For months the term has not been publicly used in its old and pungent applications. The privation appears to set severely on the less versatile portions of the party who do not know themselves, without the *nagur* in their politics. Others are consoling themselves with the comprehensive political epithet *Radical*, which will admit of any bad meaning the imagination sees fit to attach to it.

The Will of the People.

The Hollidaysburg *Register* laments the failure of the Free Railroad Law in the Legislature, and takes the following look at the future:

"We had hoped that the Legislature of the last winter would readily hearken to the voice of the people. The House was anti-railroad, or it seemed so, from some of its decisions. Their duty will be to keep it there next year, and in the meantime the Senate must be reformed. If necessary our warmest personal friends must be discarded, if they do not make up their minds to agree to the most liberal legislation on the railroad question. Pennsylvania demands more than one through line from the great West. She will have it, and those who propose to be candidates for the next Legislature may make their demand requires no sacrifice of principles—no betrayal of former pledges, and any candidate unwilling to take this side will scarcely be considered worthy of public confidence."

The *Register* but utters the prevailing sentiment among the people. None but faithful men should be the rule of Republicans everywhere in making nominations. They who have been unfaithful or exhibited weakness should step aside; rather, the people should step aside from them.

The New Castle Mills.

In reference to a dispatch that the Shenango Mill at New Castle, had started up at the old wages, we are informed by Mr. Reis, one of the proprietors, that the firm have avowed their intention not to employ "Union" Boilers at any rate—that they (Reis, Brown & Berger,) have but three furnaces on, with the avowed intention of showing the "Union" that they could get men independent of that organization. The rumor that more furnaces than the three were on is untrue. The peculiar complication with the Shenango Mill was that the boilers assumed to dictate how, and to whom the furnaces should be given, and the contest assuming that phase, prior to be paid ceased to be a matter of discussion.

A FINE of $7,000, imposed in Boston for the offense of lottery gambling, will be a strong hint to persons engaged in this business. If the laws of the land are not worth enforcing they are not worth making. But there are no laws more generally approved as right and good, for the benefit of the community, than those against gambling in general and lotteries in particular. The breaking of them, therefore, is contrary to the moral sense of the country and the age, which will approve the infliction of punishment for such offenses.

A taste for gambling is formed and cherished by the various contrivances known as gift concerts, gift enterprises, &c., in which the essential principle of lotteries is involved, often without the evil, or relative odiousness and frauds that lotteries profess to be guarded by. They are attempts to evade the penalty of the law against lotteries, while in fact violating its requirements, and thus appealing to a love of gain in the covetous, while cheating them of their money, they encourage a disregard for the sacred authority of law and so exert a corrupting and dangerous influence on the minds of citizens.

IT appears from carefully prepared tables that 84,286 emigrants arrived at New York alone from January first until April eleventh. During the first ten days of this month, 7,743 arrived, or an average of nearly eight hundred a day. Of the total number, about fourteen thousand embarked from Liverpool, five thousand from Bremen, and twenty-five hundred from Hamburg. Of the emigrants who landed at Castle Garden during January, February and March, four were destined for Alabama, thirty-one for Georgia, one hundred and forty-nine for Louisiana, five for Mississippi, two for North Carolina, twenty-four for South Carolina, thirty-four for Texas, forty-one for Tennessee, and one hundred and twelve for Virginia—a total of four hundred and two. Out of 26,325, the entire late Confederacy received a bare four hundred, or one in every sixty-six.

WE learn from the Springfield *Republican* that "the late warlike news from Europe has placed a sudden and general check on the transactions in tobacco in the Connecticut valley, which have been considerably more active during the last few weeks, after the utter stagnation of the winter. The purchasers of tobacco have all been buying for a foreign market, shipping it from New York to Bremen and Hamburg, but in the present threatening aspect of continental affairs they hesitate to proceed further and incur the risk of losing their investments." The prospect of the coming crop is not good.

THE WHEAT CROP.—A correspondent of the Chicago *Times*, writing from Rockford, Illinois, concerning the price to which he alleges wheat has been carried by speculators, says: "Now, all the farmers want is for these men to keep their faith until they get through with their wheat seeding, which is progressing finely, when they will give them No. 2 in such quantities as will dispel their ideas of a famine this year. The fall seeding of both wheat and rye never looked better on the 8th of April than now."

A STRINGENT law against prize fighting has passed the Pennsylvania Legislature. It makes the penalty for engaging in a prize fight, or taking part as second or bottler, a fine of not more than $1,000 and solitary imprisonment not exceeding two years. Every person being present at such a fight, and encouraging the same, or laying any bet or wager on the result thereof, whether present or not, shall be considered a participant therein, and may, at the discretion of the court, be punished in like manner.

THE NEW COUNTY MANIA.—The desire for the formation or creation of new counties in Pennsylvania amounts to a positive mania, and there is really no positive necessity for any more counties. They would only serve to increase taxation, and provide offices for a few hungry politicians. In addition to the clamor for new counties from the western part of the State, it is stated that a portion of the citizens of Montgomery county want a division of their territory and the county of Madison erected.

A CONTEMPORARY calls attention to the fact that when Louisiana was purchased, the tendency was almost universal in some parts of the country to condemn what had been done; and many of those of persons who defended the purchase did so from party reasons, and not because they believed we had gained much by the transaction. Good money had been paid for bad land, and we had furnished Bonaparte with means for warring against the independence of Europe, just as some men now think we have helped the Czar to funds for the carrying on of war.

NATIONAL RAILWAY CONVENTION.—J. Edgar Thomson, President of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, and also of the National Railway Convention, has issued a call for the reassembling of the latter body, at the St. Nicholas Hotel, New York, on the 8th of May. The object of the convention is to promote the mutual interests of the railway corporations of the country.

THE Philadelphia *Price List* says: The recent weather has had a beneficial effect upon the fruit, and early crops are expected to be less liable to damage from frosts and colds, than for several seasons past. The peach, apple, and pear trees indicate an unusual yield, throughout the entire counties of Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cumberland, Cape May, Gloucester, and Salem.

EUROPE.

Bismarck's Speech on Napoleon's Negotiation for Luxemburg.

France and Prussia from the English Stand Point.

MOVING TOWARDS WAR.

Count Bismarck's Speech on Napoleon's Negotiations for Luxemburg.

In the session of the North German Parliament, April 1, Herr von Bennigsen rose to question the government relative to the rumored cession of the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg to France. Count Bismarck having previously announced his readiness to give an immediate reply to the interpellation.

Herr Bennigsen said: A disquieting rumor is current that Germany is to lose Luxemburg, a birthplace of German princes, and Parliament wishes to learn what attitude the governments of the Confederation intend to adopt in the matter. The question is here of a Federal German fortress and of a German frontier territory, with an essentially German population *which never dreamed of wishing to become French.* The speaker then read a letter from Luxemburg, which was described as a cry of distress to the Parliament, and in which it was asserted that out of two hundred thousand inhabitants there were not two hundred whose language was other than German. Herr Von Bennigsen then continued as follows: Before this question all party differences disappear. *When the integrity of Germany is threatened all parties will unite and support the Minister President against foreign Powers to the utmost.* We wish for peace, but will not shrink from war if it be necessary *to repel the very first attempt of France to attack our honor.* Let us give a speedy and resolute answer to the audacious influences of France, and we shall stifle them in the bud; to be silent would be weakness. The promise given by the King that not even a German village shall be lost is preserved by the people in its inmost membrance. Let him call upon them, and he will find that they are one. The work of the new constitution can be concluded within a few days if foreign intervention threatens. We do not seek war, and if it breaks out let France be answerable. The German and the French nations could live side by side in peace and prosperity, whereas war would inflict deep wounds; but if France attempts to hinder the work of our reconstruction we will show her that Germany is united.

Count Bismarck in reply said: By the dissolution of the old Confederation the King of Holland acquired full sovereign rights over Luxemburg. There prevails in the Grand Duchy a disinclination to enter the German Confederacy on account of the military burdens that step would entail. In the higher and highest circles a bad feeling is entertained with regard to the visions of France, and in a dispatch addressed to the Prussian government last October, Holland demanded the evacuation of the fortress of Luxemburg. The government, for wishing to avoid foreign Princes in the Northern Confederation, has not put any pressure upon the Netherlands. Prussia values the relations with France, and has respected her susceptibilities so far as was consistent with her own honor. The Prussian government does not adopt the opinion that an arrangement is now to be made between Holland and France; but cannot, on the other hand, assert that the contrary is the case. The question was first officially brought forward by a communication made by the King of Holland to the Prussian Ambassador, asking what position Prussia would take up in case his Majesty should in any way cede a portion of his rights over the Duchy. In reply, Prussia declared that she would leave *the responsibility* of such a step to the King of Holland. So far as Prussia is concerned there is no reason to make any declaration on the subject. *Prussia will assure herself of the views entertained by the Powers which signed with her the treaty of 1839 and by her federal allies, as well as of the state of public opinion as represented by the North German Parliament.* Holland has not given any offers to further negotiations between France *and Prussia, nor have they been declined.* Count Bismarck went on to declare that he was prevented from giving a more detailed explanation by the state of the affair, and concluded as follows: The North German federal governments believe that no *foreign Power will endanger the undoubted rights* of Germany, and that they will be enabled to *settle safely by peaceful means*, and preserve good relations with foreign Powers the more the debates in Parliament shall show the indissolubility of ties that exist between the government and the people.

FRANCE AND PRUSSIA.

The London *Times*, in a review of the pamphlet by Duc d' Aumale, on the war power of France, indulges in some interesting suggestions on the present relations between France and Prussia. We quote:

The question at issue is whether France is or is not sufficiently armed. The Duc d'Aumale believes that France has not the same military institutions as it is now the fashion to represent her," and he strives to prove it. All that is required is a preservation or a restoration of the military spirit of the old days, and, if any change is contemplated, it should aim at giving them a strong national development, and grounding them on truly liberal principles. It is to be hoped that the Duke's views may prevail. *The unity of Germany is accomplished, and the whole French nation is made to share the "pang" with which, according to M. Rouher, the imperial government received the news of the capitulation of Sadowa.* Germany is one—so far as France, so far as all the rest of the world is concerned. Why the welfare of a neighboring nation should be looked upon as a calamity to the French, we may profess ourselves at a loss to perceive; but, what may be clearly seen is, that either France must put up with the alleged evil as past cure, or she may be driven to the use of immediate remedy, or, finally, that she must prepare to grapple with it at some future opportunity. She may make friends with Prussia, or may go to war with her at once, or she may employ several years in adding to those forces which she now seems to consider inadequate to the task.

Supineness as it may appear to us the notion that the growth of Prussia has "taken an inch or so from the stature of France" visibly gains ground in that country, a contingency in which the Minister of State thought it became a necessity to draw up a report. *That Prussia or Germany certainly harbors no hostile designs it is evident that the choice of a proper time for a declaration of hostilities lies with the French Emperor*, and that the latter is fully aware of the gravity of the conflict not to be aware of its magnitude, or to apprehend its certain issue. The relative position of the two great military powers has been modified by changes, which, whether or not any rate, the change has not been to the advantage of France. Whatever the real mind of the Emperor may be on the subject, he evidently deems it expedient to divert his subjects' thoughts from a present out-break *by his projected preparations for future hostilities.* 1,200,000 Frenchmen will be armed against Prussia at the end of seven years; but the Emperor, in all his transactions, is apt to make sufficient allowance for the work of time. Before the year 1874, he probably calculates, the irritation of the French against the Prussians will have had leisure to cool, and the sword, *which is now being sharpened against them may eventually be drawn in alliance with them.*

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Such, in a few words, was the military system in France, and the Duc d'Aumale thinks that all sweeping measures such as were found necessary and very probably useful in the early First Empire, should not without the most irresistible necessity be adopted by the second. In order to save France under the First Napoleon it would have been much better to preserve the integrity of Austria than to attempt to make up for Spanish and Russian losses by sending nearly a million of raw recruits into the field. "*Si Prussiam,*" the Duke concludes, "*studuisse virium institutionis, directe and modificates their use.* It has nothing to fear from them so long as people stand up for their own rights. Its security lies in the force of public opinion, not in the weakness of military establishment." It cannot be expected that the present ruler of France will recognize the correctness of such views. Charles X., the Emperor believes, fell because he had not sufficient military force in hand to crush Philip's last barricade, and because he had not the heart to use the force he had at hand. As for himself he knew full well that it was by grapeshot that he "saved society," or, in other words, secured supreme power, and all his policy has been invariably directed to constitute the army into a means of popular expression. "The strength of a government," he told us, with the view to which he said it of the influence of a nation, "depends on the number of men it can bring into the field." It is on that aim and object that he declares that we look upon his bill for the reorganization of the army as an error. His power at home and abroad is based upon an army; an "*armed nation*" *will prove to be a two-edged tool not to be handled without great difficulty and danger either for home or foreign purposes.*

As to foreign affairs it is clear that this vast armament of France has merely been suggested by a misapprehension of the causes that led to the sudden and general collapse of the Austrian power. Because Austria broke down in a misery only after a seven days' experiment the Emperor Napoleon exhibited mistrust of his existing military institutions, and wished to modify them by an approach to the Prussian landwehr system. Both systems, however, can hardly be kept up together with any hope of satisfactory results. The Prussian system was purely defensive; such it had existed for fifty years before it was put to the test, and then it was only for a short time and limited campaign. The defeat of the Austrians, as the Duc d'Aumale observes, was owing to a variety of causes, not a few of which must be referred rather to their own weakness than to any overwhelming strength of their adversaries. The Prussians themselves were aware of the shortcomings of their own organization, and of its unfitness for offensive purposes, and did not venture to bring their forces into the field without important additions, a principal of which consisted in prolonging the regular service from 2 to 3 years. That the French Emperor has no great faith in a mere militia is evident, from his reluctance to reduce the service of his regular troops to less than five years. But the question is not as to any improvement in the French standing army, for, such as it is, it fears no competition with thoroughly trained troops in Europe. The question is to what extent it is practicable to muster behind the 400,000 men of the present regular establishment a second line of reserve and a third of Garde Nationale Mobile that may constitute any real addition to the already disproportionate military power of France. If reserve men and National Guard men are to be made into real soldiers; if France must needs take the field with from 1,200,000 to 1,500,000 men; if, as M. Jules Favre said, the whole country is to be turned into parade ground and barracks, Germany will in the end have little to fear from French hostility. Financial distress and the partiality of all social and industrial life will suffice to render France powerless for attack, *perhaps even for defense.* A contest between France and Germany at this moment might be a terrible but a doubtful trial. But at the end of seven years, if the present Imperial scheme is persevered in, the very possibility of a conflict would be removed, for France *would find the peace of the Second Empire more exhausting than the ruthless wars of the First, and we should have in* 1874 *the prostration of* 1814.

Commercial Anxiety in Paris.

(Paris (April 1) Correspondence of London Times.)

Trade in Paris, and generally throughout France, is far from active. Disquiet and the apprehension of further political complications suffice to account for the stagnation. People are unwilling to embark in any undertaking of importance, because they look with doubt and misgiving on the future. Among the upper commercial classes the belief is that an alliance between Prussia and Russia, spoken of vaguely for some months past, is as certain as the alliance of Prussia with Bavaria, the Grand Duchy of Baden and Wurtemburg; in fact, that France has before her what is termed a "tacit coalition." In such circumstances it is not surprising that French capitalists, never remarkable for great boldness, should be cautious and timid.

Excitement in Luxemburg.

A telegram from Luxemburg of March 30th says:

"The current rumors of the cession of the grand duchy of Luxemburg to France are officially declared to be devoid of foundation. Numerous handbills are being circulated here, headed, '*Vive Napoleon*,' '*Vive la France*,' and instigating the inhabitants to acts of violence against the Prussians. Four regiments of troops belonging to the garrison, composed of Nassaners, have revolted. The Governor has been compelled to make the most serious representations on the subject to the civil authorities of the town.

PRUSSIAN PRECAUTIONS.

(Berlin (March 30) Correspondence of the London Times.)

While cautiously refusing to put off the day when a final and definite answer will have to be returned to the French proposals respecting the cession of Luxemburg, Prussia has thought it as well to protect the coveted prize against a *coup de main.* Orders have been sent to Luxemburg to prepare the casemates for the reception of troops. The posts in the advanced works have been reinforced and provided with drummers and trumpeters. A strong detachment has been told off for work in the fortress arsenal, and all the smithies in the town have received pressing orders from the commandant. Some persons, who manifested their French sympathies in the public thoroughfares by cries of "*Vive la France*" "*Vive Napoleon III.!*" were arrested by Prussian patrols.

In the meantime, the language of the Berlin Government papers continues as ambiguous as ever, and it is impossible to tell whether the measures above specified are merely intended to prevent the French from bringing pending negotiations to a forcible and premature end, or whether they are destined to usher in the adoption by this Government, of a resolute and truly national policy.

THE RUSSIAN CESSION.

Comments of the English Press.

The English papers are terribly bothered by the, to them, sudden news of the Russo-American provinces. *The Globe* says it will make a profound impression in England.

"It is," says *The Globe*, "the reply of the American Government to our Confederate scheme. At the very stage we are laying the foundation of a great Independent Power in North America, the United States negotiates and obtains possession of a large territory laying beyond ours, and greatly obstructing the communication between our territory and the sea. The United States will endeavor to make this new territory a means of obstructing the Canadian Confederation, and, if possible, of declaring from it our provinces on the Pacific, namely, British Columbia and Van Couver's Island.

"So much for the object of the Cabinet of Washington. But what is the motive of Russia? A few days ago we called attention to the bill brought forward in the American Legislature for legalizing the sale of ships and warlike materials to belligerent Powers—in other words, to allow America to fit out and sell to belligerents powerful vessels of war which she might have purchase. We then expressed our belief that this measure was inspired by the Russian Minister at Washington. We said that Russia was looking forward to a European war, when its fleets would be shut up in the Baltic and Black Sea, and that she desired to have the means of attacking and destroying the commercial navy of England or any other that should choose to venture to oppose her aggrandisement in Turkey, by getting a supply of swift war steamers from the United States.

"The cession of Russian America to the United States is a further step in the same arrangements. As the only price by which she can purchase the co-operation of the American government in this territory. It is possible the Yankees even bargain with Russia for a morsel of the 'sick man's' property—say, the island of Cyprus—in order to obtain for their navy a station in European waters.

"Again and again we have said that a great European war is approaching. Long-sighted Russia appears to be the only Power that has commenced the preparation for the emergency."

The *Post* remarks that, however strong the resolution of England may be to keep clear of foreign affairs, the storm that moans in the East and the angry waves that wash up from the West, remind her that it is not solely with domestic matters that her Imperial interests are concerned; that Lord Stanley vainly pretended the other day in Parliament that the relations of England with the United States were on the best footing; that the telegrams in reference to the purchase of Russian America for $7,000,000 by the United States are as surprising as were the Russian treaties to France, and that this is the first and most important step on the part of the United States toward claiming the whole North American continent.

Senator Cameron and the Offices.

The Washington correspondent of the Cincinnati *Gazette*, has been making an expose of the brokerage for the offices which certain Senators have been carrying on with the Presidency, of the way the Senator sold out Pennsylvania. The correspondent says: Simon Cameron aspires to further political advancement, and to secure it has not hesitated to join hands with Buckalew, Randall, and Cowan. So far as the influences of the offices in the close districts can do it, the State has been given to the fusion of Democrats and conservative Republicans.

In Judge Kelley's district a rich anti-war Democrat, who never contributed a cent to help recruiting, or for the relief of soldiers, was nominated as Assessor. Senator Cameron insisted strenuously upon his confirmation, and carried the matter so far as to say that he should consider himself perfectly disgraced and degraded if he should refuse to defer to the Senator's thoughts from a present out-break *by his projected preparations for future hostilities.* 1,200,000 Frenchmen will be armed against Prussia at the end of seven years; but the Emperor, in all his transactions, is apt to make sufficient allowance for the work of time. Before the year 1874, he probably calculates, the irritation of the French against the Prussians will have had leisure to cool, and the sword, *which is now being sharpened against them may eventually be drawn in alliance with them.*

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Such, in a few words, was the military system in France, and the Duc d'Aumale thinks that all sweeping measures such as were found necessary and very probably useful in the early First Empire, should not without the most irresistible necessity be adopted by the second. In order to save France under the First Napoleon it would have been much better to preserve the integrity of Austria than to attempt to make up for Spanish and Russian losses by sending nearly a million of raw recruits into the field. In order to save France under the First Napoleon it would have been much better to preserve the integrity of Austria than to attempt to make up for Spanish and Russian losses by sending nearly a million of raw recruits into the field. "*Si Prussiam,*" the Duke concludes, "*studuisse virium institutionis, directe and modificates their use.* It has nothing to fear from them so long as people stand up for their own rights. Its security lies in the force of public opinion, not in the weakness of military establishment." It cannot be expected that the present ruler of France will recognize the correctness of such views. Charles X., the Emperor believes, fell because he had not sufficient military force in hand to crush Philip's last barricade, and because he had not the heart to use the force he had at hand. As for himself he knew full well that it was by grapeshot that he "saved society," or, in other words, secured supreme power, and all his policy has been invariably directed to constitute the army into a means of popular expression. "The strength of a government," he told us, with the view to which he said it of the influence of a nation, "depends on the number of men it can bring into the field." It is on that aim and object that he declares that we look upon his bill for the reorganization of the army as an error. His power at home and abroad is based upon an army; an "*armed nation*" *will prove to be a two-edged tool not to be handled without great difficulty and danger either for home or foreign purposes.*

As to foreign affairs it is clear that this vast armament of France has merely been suggested by a misapprehension of the causes that led to the sudden and general collapse of the Austrian power. Because Austria broke down in a misery only after a seven days' experiment the Emperor Napoleon exhibited mistrust of his existing military institutions, and wished to modify them by an approach to the Prussian landwehr system. Both systems, however, can hardly be kept up together with any hope of satisfactory results. The Prussian system was purely defensive; such it had existed for fifty years before it was put to the test, and then it was only for a short time and limited campaign. The defeat of the Austrians, as the Duc d'Aumale observes, was owing to a variety of causes, not a few of which must be referred rather to their own weakness than to any overwhelming strength of their adversaries. The Prussians themselves were aware of the shortcomings of their own organization, and of its unfitness for offensive purposes, and did not venture to bring their forces into the field without important additions, a principal of which consisted in prolonging the regular service from 2 to 3 years. That the French Emperor has no great faith in a mere militia is evident, from his reluctance to reduce the service of his regular troops to less than five years. But the question is not as to any improvement in the French standing army, for, such as it is, it fears no competition with thoroughly trained troops in Europe. The question is to what extent it is practicable to muster behind the 400,000 men of the present regular establishment a second line of reserve and a third of Garde Nationale Mobile that may constitute any real addition to the already disproportionate military power of France. If reserve men and National Guard men are to be made into real soldiers; if France must needs take the field with from 1,200,000 to 1,500,000 men; if, as M. Jules Favre said, the whole country is to be turned into parade ground and barracks, Germany will in the end have little to fear from French hostility. Financial distress and the partiality of all social and industrial life will suffice to render France powerless for attack, *perhaps even for defense.* A contest between France and Germany at this moment might be a terrible but a doubtful trial. But at the end of seven years, if the present Imperial scheme is persevered in, the very possibility of a conflict would be removed, for

RUSSIAN AMERICA.

Imperial Reports of the Cession Received in England---Great Britain Likely to be "Excited."

In the House of Lords on the 21 of April the Earl of Clarendon said: In the absence of the noble Earl at the head of the government I take liberty of asking any of the noble lords opposite whether they may be able to give the House any information on a subject of great public interest. I allude to the cession of a large portion of the Russian territory to the United States, of which we received intimation yesterday by telegraph. A similar question was asked yesterday in another place, and my noble friend at the head of the Foreign Office said that he had telegraphed to St. Petersburg for information and had not yet received an answer.

The Duke of Buckingham—I am much obliged to the noble Earl for having put the question, because it affords me an opportunity, in the absence of my noble friend at the head of the Government, of giving all the information which we at present possess with reference to the cession of Russian America. Within the last two hours a communication has been received from St. Petersburg confirming the impression that negotiations have been entered upon, or are on foot, for the purpose of treating with the United States for the cession of that territory; but how far these negotiations have progressed, whether they have arrived at any definite point, or whether any answer or communication has been received from the United States, the authorities at St. Petersburg were not aware when the information thence was sent us. The question of the cession of that portion of America to the United States is one likely to cause great feeling and possibly considerable excitement; but I trust it will not be allowed to have undue weight in the minds of Englishmen, for I cannot myself think that the cession or purchase, if it be so, by the United States is likely to have such overwhelming influence upon the progress of the colonies sprung from English blood, which have been established on that side of the world as at first sight might be imagined.

MINE EXPLOSION.

Eleven Men Killed.

A letter from Ashland, Schuylkill county, under date of the 15th inst., says: I send you the particulars, so far as can be ascertained, of the accident which occurred in the coal mine of Bancroft, Lewis & Co., near this place. About nine o'clock on Friday evening an explosion of fire damp took place, while twelve men were at work in the mine, eleven of whom were taken out dead. One man was rescued alive, but in a state of convulsive excitement, caused by the inhalation of sulphur, and raving to such an extent that it required the strength of several to hold him. He was placed under the medical treatment of Dr. Swain, of this place, who today considered him out of danger, and in a fair way to a speedy recovery.

As to how the accident happened nothing is yet known, all those who could possibly give any information regarding the cause of origin being killed, excepting Kinnir, the one mentioned above, whose medical attendant will not allow him to be questioned on the subject. The killed were buried yesterday.

Reminiscence of John B. Gough.

The fact has already been announced that John B. Gough, the famous temperance orator, is said to have received an offer of sixty-two thousand four hundred dollars a year for one night's lecture in each week in the city of London. In referring to this fact, the Titusville *Herald* gives some interesting reminiscences of Gough, as follows:

A gentleman of this city gives us some reminiscences of this famous man, who it is well known, has seen a great deal of vicissitude, eaten the bread of poverty, and passed through all the miserable phases of a drunkard's career, until by the force of will he rose to the highest pinnacle of cotemporary fame, eclipsing the splendor of the stage and senate by the magic

The Pittsburgh Commercial: Saturday, April 20, 1867.

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

Miss Eller, of Hamilton county, Indiana, whose case has been alluded to, after several days of horrible suffering from hydrophobia, gradually became more tranquil under the "bromide of potassium" treatment of her physicians, and is now reported to be convalescent.

A convention of French citizens of the Western States and Canada is to be held at Detroit on the 25th inst. The call says the object is to promote the general interests of the French citizens of the Western District, while matters of great importance to the French residing in Canada will be brought before the convention.

Among the American exhibitors in Paris there is no little excitement, as, in spite of the repeated extensions of space which Mr. Beckwith has obtained, there are already more goods here than there is room for, many having been sent over, I understand, without any previous notification to the Commissioner General here. The honorary and scientific commissioners, too, are in an ill humor.

The Naval Board appointed under the act o Congress, to decide upon the acceptance or rejection of League Island has reported in favor of acceptance, and that the Secretary of the Navy has officially notified the municipal authorities of Philadelphia of the fact, in order that they may perfect the arrangements necessary for the transfer of the lands to the National Government.

Here is a Chicago paragraph: "St. Louis polled 14,000 votes at its last election. Estimating the ratio of voters at one in seven, we find that St. Louis has a population of 91,000, or just a little more than half that of Chicago."

A new vehicle in Paris, for riding, is mounted on very large wheels. The horse is placed between the wheels, whilst the driver and the carriage body are over the horse. Such a vehicle as this takes up little room and is very convenient in crowded thoroughfares.

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company has declared a semi-annual dividend of 4 per cent. on the stock of the Main Stem, payable on the 30th inst. Also, a dividend of 5 per cent. on the Washington Branch, payable on the 16th of April, free of United States tax.

At Jacksonville, Illinois, last summer, a young lady took a vial of chloroform to her bed with her one night, to quiet the toothache. Next morning she was found apparently dead, and after the lapse of the usual time was buried. A few days ago the remains were exhumed for removal to another cemetery. On opening the coffin the corpse was found turned over, both hands full of hair, and other indications, and all appearances indicating that the unfortunate lady had awakened from a trance to find herself buried alive.

St. Louis consumed last year in the manufacture of 217,892 barrels of beer 500,000 bushels of barley, worth a million of dollars.

The strolling jugglers in one of the provinces of France, have added to their labors, the occupation of tract distributors; they having made the discovery that the gratuity of a tract added to their meagre entertainment, increased their patronage and swelled their exchequer.

A French physician is curing his patients who are suffering from debility and reduced and enfeebled blood, by giving them the fresh warm blood of chickens, ducks and other fowl.

The Culpepper, Va., *Observer* says: We were pleased to notice the fine appearance of the wheat fields all along the road from this place to Washington, Rappahannock, a few days since. A better prospect has not often been known in this section, for a heavy crop. The farmers are also busy plowing for oats and corn.

The grain crop in the Shenandoah Valley, it is said, will be larger the present season than ever before. Wheat, buckwheat and rye never looked better, and an immense amount of land is to be planted in corn.

A number of Massachusetts manufacturers, representing capital to the amount of hundreds of millions of dollars, assembled in Boston recently, and entered into an agreement to resist the eight hour system. They are to aid each other and energetically oppose the movement.

The Japanese performers in New York, are the talk of the town. For instance: A man lies on his back and supports for ten or fifteen minutes on the soles of his upitted feet a ladder twenty or twenty-five feet long, on which a boy climbs in and out to the top (which rests nowhere) and at that hight performs the most surprising gymnastic feats. An even more wonderful thing was the boy's performance on a bamboo pole, supported in a similar manner on a man's feet and nowhere else.

Embonpoint is the fashion in Paris now, and some of the most stylish ladies secure it by wearing false India rubber stomachs. The articles have long been plenty enough in this country, and the female sex haven't the monopoly of them by any means.

The Georgia Railroad Company has declared a dividend of three per cent. on the operations of the last six months, payable on demand.

A Philadelphia paper says: Delaware shad appear to be pretty well played out. But few have been taken so far this season, and the price asked for them is enormously high. The coal tar that escapes from the gas works, and the coal oil or substitute for it that mingles with the Schuylkill, and finally with the waters of the Delaware, have a deleterious effect upon shad and perch in particular, and other fish in general.

Those pretending to have some data for their opinions express the belief that the demand for coal in the manufactories and for steam marine purposes will fall off materially from last year and the year before. All the indications at present favor the conclusion that the supply of anthracite coal will largely exceed the demand.

The decline of cotton in the foreign market, together with the dull trade at home, are having a depressing influence on dry goods. Prices of all but the leading staples are weak, and the market still points to low figures. Jobbing houses continue fairly active. We see it stated that several leading houses in New York are retailing long goods at prices below the actual cost of transportation.

It is complimentary to Yankee ingenuity that a commissioner has been sent from Switzerland to examine the railroad which enables us to make the ascent of Mount Washington, with a view of scaling the Alps on the same plan.

Charles Ulrich, arrested for forgery sometime since by a United States detective, has confessed that he has paid $19,600 hush-money to New York Police Detectives, and has likewise altered stolen watches for them so that they could not be recognized by their owners. A special meeting of the Commissioners is called to see if they cannot discover what it is that has been sharing the plunder. There is a strong outside public sentiment in favor of this, the people naturally being anxious to ascertain if they are taxed to keep in office persons who were trying to get the State Prison or Penitentiary.

It is asserted that at the outset Mr. Seward was a hindrance to the ratification of the Russian treaty, and the idea that it was carried through the influence of his dinners is all bosh. One correspondent says:

"At that time, as is well known, a majority of the Senate was against it; but the more it was talked up the fewer votes it got, and finally but two Senators had the courage to vote against it. Several disliked the project who were afraid to vote against it. The western, and especially the Pacific members of the Senate, were determined that it should pass, and declared that for a Republican Senate to reject it would be fatal."

It is wonderful to see how in this, as in things in general, the disposition prevails to get on the successful side, and make it appear nobody was ever on the other.

The Washington correspondent of the Detroit *Post*, indulges in Presidential speculation, which, we may conclude, will soon become plenty as blackberries: Among the Senators, Wade's chances are considered the best, after which may be mentioned Fessenden, Yates, Morton, and Trumbull. Pomeroy thinks his chances good for the Vice Presidency. Senators Sherman and Sprague are looking after the Chase interest. General Grant is not talked of now, although it is conceded that he would be elected if nominated by either party. Among the generals, General George H. Thomas is most talked of. In the House of Representatives, Colfax, Butler and Logan are the only candidates. The latter is also spoken of as the soldier's candidate on the Republican ticket, for the Vice Presidency. A ticket with Colfax for President and General O. O. Howard, of the Freedmen's Bureau, for Vice President, is also spoken of. It is also seriously reported that Horace Greeley thinks his chances for the Presidential office good.

LEGISLATIVE PRAYERS.—At the end of the long list of appropriations made by the State Legislature, at its late session, come two items which have a very curious appearance. They read thus:

For Prayers in the Senate	$200 00
For Prayers in House	300 00

The Legislature was in actual session about sixty days, from which it appears that the Harrisburg clergy received $5 a day for officiating at the opening of the daily sessions. We do not know that there is any particular objection to paying the clergy of Harrisburg for their services; but there is something very odd in the business-like way in which they are tacked on at the tail end of the General Appropriation Bill. —*Phila. Bulletin.*

MR. BEECHER has distinct views on most of things, but in regard to nothing is he more emphatic than legislative corruption. In a sermon, last Sunday, he referred to "the corruptions of politics, the flagrant venality of legislation" as one of the perilous evils of the hour in these words:

"The men at Washington and Albany sold their country; they sold their fidelity and their honor, and the trusts that were put upon them by their constituents. They were debauchers of the young; they were the traitors; they that lifted the sword of half so much traitors; they that despoiled the old banner and trod it under foot; *they that fired upon the Government of the United States were not so much traitors as those terrible men who were trusted under the foundations and destroying by corruption the vital power of the Government.*"

WENDELL PHILLIPS has no right to force Gen. Grant upon the Republican party as its candidate for next President. Whether he is the right man for the place, we will consider in due time; but this is not the time, nor is Mr. Phillips the man, to make our nominations. Let the people have a chance to observe, reflect, and decide.—*New York Tribune.*

PERSONAL.

—General Joseph E. Johnston, late of the Confederate army, is preparing a history of his campaigns. Jefferson Davis will, of course, be handled vigorously, and the work will embrace, in addition to a record of battles and marches, a philosophical view of cotemporary events, sufficient to give it the character of a history rather than a narrative. General Lee is also busy at a review of his campaigns, which a New York publisher is to take in hand, paying him, it is reported, about ten per cent. on the sales.

—The richest negro in Philadelphia is Stephen Smith, a lumber merchant. He owns seventy-five houses in fee simple, and is worth not less than $200,000. Harris Lindsey, a bounty broker during the war, is worth $250,000. There are five artists and a number of musicians that receive distinguished attention. Philadelphia has 28,000 colored people, who support seventeen churches.

—A lady in the southern part of Illinois, having a few hundred dollars concluded to try her fortune speculating in wheat. She wrote accordingly to a prominent commission house in Chicago, engaging them to act as her agents and ordering them to invest the entire sum in that treacherous staple. In a short time, contrary to all expectation, it went up to a surprising figure, and the fair speculator sold out at a great advance. Shortly after she again telegraphed her agents to purchase a large amount, but they replied in the same manner that the market was very much depressed and they would not advise her to buy. For answer she repeated her order, and by the late advance in prices has been enabled to have $40,000 placed to her credit.

—People have wondered why Vanderbilt paid one million for St. John's Park. It is easily explained. The four acres will make sixty-four building lots, and each lot is worth at least forty thousand dollars, and no doubt many are wondering why they did not see the chance to make so pretty a bargain.

—Among the passengers by the steamer Germania, which sailed on Saturday for Southampton and Hamburg, are Henry R. Kuhards, Esq., Consul at Hamburg; Mrs. F. Sallinger, Miss H. Sallinger, and C. C. Klambach, of Philadelphia. On board the Arago for Southampton and Havre, G. Kendell, B. S. Kendell and lady, and M. E. Ely, of Philadelphia. In the City of Antwerp, for Liverpool, W. H. Smith, Mrs. Smith, Miss Smith, B. Percy, H. Smith, Mrs. Gold, Mrs. S. Singer, C. R. Rear and lady, W. Turner and family, Mr. Roberts and Mr. Bowster, all of Philadelphia. Senator Sherman, of Ohio, was also on board the City of Antwerp. Many of his personal friends went down the bay with him. He expects to return in August.

—At a recent educational meeting in London the Duke of Argyll expressed the opinion that the English people would soon demand the American system of common school education, leaving the religious education to the Sunday schools.

—There have of late been various reports of the dangerous illness of the heir of the French throne. The British *Medical Journal* states that it has authority to contradict these rumors so far as they refer to the serious constitutional character of the Prince's illness. He has been suffering for some time from an abscess resulting from a bruise, but it has been successfully treated by his physicians. The young gentleman, also, is now in the stage where there is so much anxiety, is eleven years old.

—Rev. Henry Ward Beecher has been waited upon by some of his friends, to see if he would accept the office of delegate to the State Constitutional Convention. The reverend gentleman said he was not prepared to give, just then, a definite answer. He wanted time to consider. If he could see it in the light of a duty, he would endeavor to accede to the wishes of his friends, whose good intentions in placing him in nomination he did not doubt.

—In the New York Supreme Court, general term, Mr. Spencer moved that a colored lawyer, named Bradley, of Massachusetts, be admitted to practice. This is said to be the first application of the kind ever made in a New York court. The application was referred to the Committee on Character. The result is looked for with interest.

—Madame Erlanger and her sister, Miss Slidell, made a great sensation at a recent ball in Paris by the splendor of their toilettes. At Madame de Moustier's, Madame E. represented the Angel of War, and Miss Rosina S. the Angel of Peace. The dresses were an appropriate costume—that of Amphytrite; she was streaming with diamonds of the purest water, her dress was bespangled with gems, and gold and silver whitebaits were hopping in the meshes of her tulle dress. Her charming daughter illustrating the blue night of Italy; Madame de Pene wore an Egyptian costume; Mdlle. de Berne personified Inconstancy, a winged heart on her head, and winged hearts on her dress, with cherubs gamboling in great profusion; Mdlle. de Tamisy represented the electric wires; Mdlles. de Leife bouquets of cherries and corn poppies; Madame de S., snow; Mdlle. Hitchcock, a very pretty American lady, that rode the Derby, in the garb of a jockey; and Countess de Givry personated France, firmly grasping a flag. As to the gentlemen, there were a white sheep, with rose satin paws, little golden horns, and a lot of favours, then a cock, and a Caucasian.

—Prince Kang, the actual ruler of China, refused to allow the English there to build a railroad. His reasons in opposition were that the prejudices of the people were very strong; the country of Confucious differed from the wild, semi-barbarous and primitive regions of Europe, whose inhabitants were comparatively of recent origin, whereas the Flowery Kingdom was under elaborate culture, and the occupations of the inhabitants were peculiar.

—Mr. Grau, the hard matter-of-fact individual who keeps getting between Ristori and her worshipers with his abominable question as to how many dollars they worship her, has visited Utica, and evidently is disgusted with it as a pent-up place which will contract her powers, for he declared, with mingled pathos and positiveness, that Ristori can be play Elizabeth in Utica. She play de same in Buffalo, Rochester and Syracuse—tree nights in succession. But Ristori can no play Elizabeth four nights in de same week. It would be suicide." It was finally arranged that Marie Stuart should be the play in Utica, with the last of Macbeth as a compensatory concession.

In order to arrive at correct knowledge of the opinions of the clergy of Massachusetts on the question of prohibition, the Rev. Edward Otterman addressed to all of them a circular, to which 962 declared for prohibition, 56 for license, and 7 were in doubt. Of the 56 for license, 25 are Roman Catholics, 12 Unitarians, and 8 Episcopalians. Of the Orthodox Protestant and Universalist pastors, not one in fifty favors license.

THE GREAT ST. LOUIS BRIDGE.—An experienced engineer, R. B. Lewis, has commenced the preliminary operations in the construction of the bridge over the river opposite St. Louis. He is now boring through the sediment at the bottom of the river to ascertain the depth to the rock upon which the piers are to rest. The work is to be prosecuted with vigor and energy.

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH stock Thursday, at New York, recovered about 2½ per cent. on the decline of 6¼ per cent. of the previous day or two—selling from 35½ up to 37⅞. The *Times* of that city ascribes the decline in good part to the organization of the Atlantic and Pacific Company, organized under the laws of New York.

It is difficult to ascertain the truth about the Paris Exposition. The latest version is by the correspondent of the New York *Times*, who says "it is really magnificent, or is going to be magnificent;" notwithstanding the assertion of the English press—it is a "failure" and a "humbug."

THE meteorological records kept at Sitka by the Russian government, in latitude 57:03 degrees, the mean temperature for a period of ten years was in spring 44:5 degrees: in the summer, 57:5 degrees; in autumn, 47 degrees; in winter, 36:5 degrees, and during the year 47:4 degrees. This indicates colder springs, summers and autumns, but milder winters than they have in Philadelphia.

PERSONS not accustomed to accurate thinking make comical blunders sometimes, when they get among large numbers and estimates. One of the city papers yesterday morning said, it is estimated that eight hundred millions of men use tobacco. That is twice as many *men* as there are living on the globe.

IN New York both parties are bringing into the field for the Constitutional Convention their best men, and the *Tribune* thinks it will be a body of unequaled ability and purity. Let us, in Pennsylvania, in selecting men for the next Legislature, for once adopt and rigidly adhere to the same rule.

FIFTEEN MILLION DOLLAR MORTGAGE.—The Meadville *Republican* says: "There is a marked increase in both the passenger and freight traffic of the Atlantic and Great Western Railway lately. The Broad Gauge Fast Freight Line, between New York, St. Louis, Cincinnati and Cleveland, is doing a fine business. The earnings of the road for March showed an increase of about $40,000 over the corresponding month of last year, and April will undoubtedly be still better."

The Protestant theological school at Florence, Italy, is growing strong and successful, and Protestant missions throughout that country are now prosecuted with great vigor, particularly by the Waldenses. An American and Foreign Christian Union is also doing useful unsectarian work, and Protestantism in Italy is taking to itself a peculiar freedom in form and spirit. A large part of the people, on escaping from the church of Rome, prefer a system of Christian life more free and simple than that of any Protestant sect whatever.

A WASHINGTON letter says: Such a backward, wet, cold, unpleasant spring time has never been known to the oldest inhabitant. Hyacinths and apricot trees are at last in full bloom, and the lawns about the public buildings are green, but the weather is anything but vernal, to the discontent of the juveniles, who begin to think about their May day celebrations.

ROME.—There are, it is estimated, 13,000 Americans in Rome, awaiting the Holy Week solemnities.

PARIS EXPOSITION.

The American Department on the Opening Day.

Special Correspondence of the London Telegraph.

America was putting her best foot foremost all day Sunday; but although the decoration of the United States courts is completed, and the counters are ready, and the glass cabinets are prepared, the United States packing cases are not yet emptied of a tithe of their contents. I saw, however, a great many Transatlantic articles exhibited which will demand, at a future period, extended notice. Amongst others are sumptuously carved chimney pieces of Vermont, Tennessee, and California marble; the last as rich in color as onyx, and beautifully veined with gold in its natural state. Then there was an imposing array of grand pianos, and a very remarkable collection of clocks, statuettes, and lamps, seemingly made of bronze, but in reality of cast iron, artfully colored, and which can be sold twenty-five per cent. cheaper than the real bronze, while they are quite as handsome and fully as durable. There is also a really astonishing machine—I need scarcely say that it is of New England manufactnre—for the simultaneous composing of type and the formation of a matrix for stereotyping, the types being stamped into a thickness of a soft blotting-paper, from which the cast can subsequently be taken. The compositor sits before a species of key-board, strongly resembling that of a piano forte. His feet works the pedal; in fact, you might fancy that, while he is really "setting up" the Constitution of the United States, he was some boarding-school miss practising her exercises on an instrument whose keys had been carefully muffled, out of consideration for the nervous lodger next door. In its remaining portions, the United States department—although no fault, be it observed, of Mr. Beckwith, the Chief Commissioner, but through the non-arrival of merchandise—is in a regretable state of backwardness. At all events, however, America had something to show, which was not the case on Sunday afternoon with Italy, with Portugal, and with Brazil. Those countries had unpacked nothing, and seemed hopelessly behindhand.

THE Clayfish, as a great dirt digger, are destructive enemies to the Mississippi levees. Innumerable as the white ants, they live like troglodytes, in dark caverns, along the side of every stream, pool, lagoon, or river, in the banks of which they scoop out their habitations. Taking up their abode in countless millions, within the levees, where they find a secure retreat, they honeycomb it in every direction, drilling out spacious galleries, and are rapidly larged with the wants of the growing colony. The planter, congratulating himself on the solid bulwark that fences his property, little fancies what a mere shell it has become under the claws of these tireless workers, until some day the straining tide forces in the earth, the little rift widens, and with a sudden crash, the embankment gives way, and the flood is soon swept by the resistless torrent, and houses, cattle, barns, sometimes himself and family are borne off on the boiling flood.

THE New Orleans *Price Current* of the 10th, speaking of the crevasses and the weather, and the disastrous consequences of the overflow, says: "There is little or no hope that any of the crevasses referred to will be stopped until the river recedes within its natural banks. This cannot take place for many weeks, or perhaps months to come, as the spring season is very backward, and in the meantime the planted cane will all be destroyed when under water, as two weeks is about the longest period that it will live submerged. The weather for some weeks past has been extremely unfavorable to the planting interests. It has not only been remarkably cold for the season, but there has been a succession of drenching rains which have suspended ploughing and other planting labor, so that the planters are now a full month behind in their work.

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES.—The Zanesville *Courier*, edited by General Legget, in referring to an article in the Pittsburgh *Gazette*, suggesting General O. O. Howard for President, says: "We served under General Howard and know, honor and respect him. His excellent qualities and christian virtues endear him to all. But he is not the man to take the helm of national affairs. We say it, with all respect for General Howard, but such is the case. He has not that firmness nor decision of character requisite for that exalted position. He depends too much upon the opinions of others and not enough upon his own."

The *Courier*, in conclusion says: "The people have selected, in their own mind, General Grant for President. If he will consent to be a candidate, the Pe[illegible]ent makers will be saved much trouble. The question of General Grant's ac[illegible]eptance is the first one to be settled."

The Round Table indulges in the following criticism of prevailing fashions:

We cannot say that we greatly admire the *contour* of the most fashionable garbs we have hitherto seen. The extraordinary ascension of the chignon is, we think, a physiognomical blunder, as well as objectionable otherwise. There is a certain nature of haughtiness in its effect which is not only a little ridiculous, but more than a little unladylike. A strained effect is quite unescapable with this species of coiffure—a look as if the growing hair had fallen into the hands of wild Indians, who, commencing with the waterfall in its old legitimate place, had scalped it up to the crown and left it there. The short dress, too, are less graceful than the trains, although far more sensible, and the rotund skirts have collapsed with a precipitancy which has a very whimsical effect to the unaccustomed eye.

MEETINGS against Chinese labor continue to be held in San Francisco. The president of one of them said: "One trade (the cigar-making) had been entirely broken up by the Chinese, and now they were invading other branches, and it was impossible to go into a shoe manufactory or tailor shop without finding from one to a dozen of the pig-tail Chinese engaged in some labor which could be better done by some lovely white girl. Down with the Chinese, and who do a great wrong by employing Chinese servants. They may not know what they have done and are doing to drive the honest working-girls from the kitchen [illegible]. It was finally arranged that Marie Stuart should be the play in Utica, with the last of Macbeth as a compensatory concession.

"CURCULIO" ON FRUIT TREES.—At a recent meeting of the Farmers' Club of the American Institute, a discussion took place on the best method of destroying curculio on fruit trees, when a gentleman stated that if a hole was bored in the body of the tree, and then hole filled with sulphur, it would so infect the tree that no insect or worm would live upon it. Upon some doubt being expressed as to the efficacy of this "infallible" remedy, he said he had tried the remedy, and he spoke from experience. The chairman remarked that if this be a sure preventative, it was worth millions to the country, and we need never lack a supply of fruit in the future.

DURING the recent passage of the steamer Chicago, from Liverpool to New York, an iceberg was encountered which stove a hole in her bow, and for several days she was in imminent danger of sinking. During the excitement one of the steerage passengers furnished a little melancholy amusement by following the officers about and offering them money if they would let him go into the boats with them. He was perfectly willing that the ship should remain on the ship. She was a good Christian, he said, and prepared to die; but he was not quite ready to go, and would rather get to New York first, where he would have time for repentance.

In New York, they say, the extreme liveliness of our sacred music occasionally affords some strange occurrences. A recent operatic performance in one of the first-class churches came near being encored, and the solo performer called out by an enthusiastic worshipper, who forgot his place and thought he was in front of the foot-lights. On another occasion the performance was so exciting that it is said a gentleman undertook "to walk a figure" in the aisle.

We learn from the London papers that the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon is now holding his Sunday services at the great Agricultural Hall, Islington, his own "tabernacle" being under repair. Twenty thousand persons were accommodated with seats on the last day of March. Ladies had to raise their parasols to protect them from the sun's rays, the roof of the hall being composed entirely of glass. The popularity of the reverend gentleman does not appear to have diminished.

A TONGUE OF INDIA RUBBER.—A Paris correspondent states that in that city there is a coachman who has become a celebrity from having an India rubber tongue. A cancer on his tongue rendering amputation necessary, the operation was successfully performed, and the lost tongue replaced by one of India rubber. Although he cannot speak, he tastes, swallows and smokes his pipe with evident enjoyment, and after eating, takes out his tongue as one does a set of teeth, generally carrying it in his pocket between his repasts.

INCREASE IN TRAFFIC.—The Meadville *Republican* says: "There is a marked increase in both the passenger and freight traffic of the Atlantic and Great Western Railway lately. The Broad Gauge Fast Freight Line, between New York, St. Louis, Cincinnati and Cleveland, is doing a fine business. The earnings of the road for March showed an increase of about $40,000 over the corresponding month of last year, and April will undoubtedly be still better."

FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, April 17, 1867.

The general trade of our city has greatly improved, and some particular branches are almost up to the usual amount at this season.

—Stocks are quiet. Several small lots of bank shares were inquired for to-day, but prices were too low to bring out sellers.

—The funding of the Seven-thirty bonds into Five-twenties is going on rapidly in this city, as well as elsewhere. Holders of the August series who expect a bond for 20 years will do well to notify the Treasury of the fact at once. The notes call for a bond at maturity, and failing to notify the Treasury of the intention to demand the full 20-year bond may make it necessary for holders to leave their 7-30's with the Department when they collect the last interest, and to wait until a new series of bonds can be printed. The new bonds when obtained will be less desirable than the bonds of 1865, and sell below them at once.

—The better way for holders of the Seven-Thirties is to exchange them at once for the new 5-20s, which they can readily do at McVay & Co.'s Banking House, on favorable terms. The New York quotations received at this House to-day, show a decline of ¾ of one per cent. on bonds and 5-20s of 1862, and an advance of ¾ on Compounds and ⅜ on gold over morning advices:

6s 1881	109
5-20s, 1862	107
" 1865, May and November	108⅜
" 1865, January and July	107⅞
10-40s	98
December '64 Compounds	115⅝
August 7-30s	106
June 7-30s	105⅞
July "	105⅝
Gold	135⅜

—The noon quotations of the New York stock market, received by Mr. Bryan to-day, show a fractional recovery from the decline in Railways which, we reported this morning:

Gold	135¼
U. S. Bonds, 1881	109½
U. S. Bond, 5-20's, 1862	107⅝
U. S. Bonds, 5-20's, 1865	108
U. S. Bonds (new issue) 5-20's, 1865	107⅝
U. S. Bonds, 7-30's	105¾
Michigan Southern	85⅝
Cleveland & Pittsburgh	93
P., F. Wayne & Chicago	92⅜
Erie	64
Chicago & Rock Island	86½
Pittsburgh & Fort Wayne	96⅝
Chicago & Northwestern preferred	59⅞
New York Central	99⅜
Reading	99⅝

—A cotemporary journal remarks that not, withstanding the rapid recovery from the panic symptoms of last week, there is not the slightest disposition to indulge in speculation. Outside orders follow the rises but for a little way, and then stop short, and without their support the market generally becomes sluggish, and slight declines set in; the downward tendency is usually checked by a flow of orders to buy at the lower figures, and the immediate result is an advance. With the recovery of prices the outside investments are withdrawn, until another fall in the stock thermometer, forming a financial illustration of the childish game of "see-saw," and this has been the real state of the stock market for months past. There is nothing particularly damaging in this condition of things; a mania for speculation is never to be approved or encouraged, as its ultimate results must in the nature of things ever prove disastrous. The steadiness of the market, however, forced the speculative and investing stocks to be sold at about their intrinsic value for the time being, and prevented even the possibility of panics.

—Belding, Keith & Co., under date of London, March 30th, received at this office, says United States five-twenty bonds show a marked and exceptional advance, which is fully warranted by their low prices and excellent security, though these considerations, in the present state of feeling here, would not suffice to cause a rise, which results principally from orders on account of German investors, who buy on the first realization of the value of these bonds, and continue to purchase them largely. Illinois Central and Erie are firm at about our last prices. As regards Atlantic and Great Western securities, there is an improvement of ½ per cent. in the debentures, but a reduction of ¼ in the consolidated mortgage bonds, closing at 33 to 33, and 32 to 32½ respectively.

—J. T. Brady & Co., Bankers and Brokers, corner Fourth and W[illegible] ood streets, dealers in Government Securities, quote the same [illegible]ent Securities, quote the same as New York to-day as follows:

U. S. 6s, 1881	109
U. S. 5-20s, 1862	107⅝
U. S. 5-20s, 1865	108
U. S. 7-30s, 1st series	106
U. S. 7-30s, 2d and 3d series	105⅞
December, 1864, Compound Interest Notes	115¼
December, 1864, Compound Interest Notes	110¼

—The following shows the total average of the leading items of the Philadelphia Banks for the past and previous week:

	Last week.	This week.
Capital	$15,817,150	$15,317,150
Loans	25,535,775	25,535,775
Specie	604,712	598,023 Dec. 6,689
Legal tenders	15,744,188	16,198,487 Inc. 454,299
Due from banks	4,196,417	4,765,921 Inc. 569,504
Due to Banks	6,665,801	7,098,437 Inc. 432,636
Deposits	24,827,607	25,277,044 Inc. 453,437
Circulation	10,661,615	10,645,807 Dec. 15,748

The bank statement is more favorable this week. Deposits increased over a million of dollars, the Legal tenders over three hundred thousand and the Loans nearly a quarter of a million. The specie item decreased $118,694, and the circulation $5,748. The clearing, for the week were $37,374,728, agai nst $35,379,269 the previous week. The balances were $3,152,108 against $2,920,285 the previous week. The New York statement for last week shows a decrease in Loans of $4,967,849, and of $1,000,000 in deposits. The Legal-tenders increased $1,180,740 and the specie about three-quarters of a million. The Circulation decreased $72,526.

—The return from the Bank of England for the week ending March 27 gives the following result when compared with the previous week:

Rest	£ 3,882,197	Inc. £ 417
Public deposits	6,121,196	Inc. 545,307
Other deposits	17,169,852	Inc. 244,247
Government securities	11,011,746	No change.
Other securities	20,077,989	Inc. 1,141,231
Notes reserved	11,738,465	Inc. 1,389,740

The amount of notes in circulation is £24,-337,715, being an increase of £487,820; and the stock of bullion in both departments is £19,627,-252, showing an increase of £165,786 when compared with the preceding return.

—The Boston *Advertiser*, under date of April 16th, says: Mining stocks were firmer, with a decided disposition to purchase, which advanced prices, and the market at the close was strong. Copper Falls sold at 22 cash, and 23 buyer 30 days. At a meeting of the Directors held this day, Aaron Warner Spencer, Esq., was elected President, and Rudolph Bigelow Treasurer, the latter in place of Mr. Joseph B. Wheelock, resigned. Huron opened at 24¼ and advanced to 10⅝ regular sale, 11 buyer 30. Franklin opened at 20, with 20¼ bid afterwards, and no sellers under 21. National opened at 2 cash and 2¼ buyer 30. Hancock stock for non-payment of $5 assessment was sold at public auction to-day, prices ranging 5½@6.5⅝; later in the day it fell off to 5. Small sales of Pewabic at 15½; 15¾ bid. Sales of 100 of this mine was 95 tons, a slight gain on the previous month.

Advices from Europe quote the price of ingot copper a little higher. This will be likely to have a favorable effect on this side of the water.

The following were the closing prices for the principal Mining stocks: Allouez 4¼@4⅝; Bay State 4¾; Calumet, 256@40; Canada 45@50; Copper Falls 22¾@22½; Dana 1⅝@1¾; Franklin 20¼@21; Hancock 5¼@5⅝; Hanover 6¼@6⅝; Huron 10⅛@10⅜; Hancock Consolidated Huron, assessment paid, 10⅝@10¾; Isle Royal 4@4¾; Minnesota 9 asked; National 7@7½; Petherick 2 offered; Pewabic 15@15½; Quincy 256@260; Rockland 7⅛@8¼; St. Clair, assessment paid, 5½ asked; Superior 2¼@2½; Winthrop ¾ offered.

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } WEDNESDAY EVENING, April 17, 1867. }

There was considerable activity exhibited in the general markets to-day, and in most departments a decided improvement. The Flour market continues firm and active. Provisions are generally in request and firmly held at quotations. The Grain market is active and prices ruling for some time. Butter is coming in, in better supply and quality, and prices are tending downward. The Grocery business is generally brisk. Prices have not varied materially in any branch of trade, within the past week.

The receipts of leading articles of produce, per river and railroad since our last, were as follows: Flour 256 bbls; apples 338 bbls; cheese 370 bxs; corn 2,462 sacks; barley 114 sacks; wheat 900 sacks; oats 810 sacks, and 1,000 packages. We give them as follows, which are the wholesale prices, unless otherwise stated:

APPLES—Prices were somewhat lower, ranging, for prime to choice, from $2 75@$3 50 per bbl.

BUTTER—Prices under more liberal receipts of the best grades, are tending downward. We note sales of 10 boxes choice Western Reserve, at 39c; 14 packages choice at 38c, and 5 do at 36c per ⅌.

EGGS—Prices are the same as last quoted. Sales reported of 30 bbls and 30 packages at 23c per dozen.

BACON, LARD, &c.—The market is active with a good demand. We note sales from packers of 9,000 ⅌s shoulders, at 10c; 12,000 ⅌s sugar cured hams, at 15¼@15½c; 5,000 ⅌s sides, at 11¾c; 15 tierces leaf lard at 13c, and dried beef at 22½c ⅌ ⅌. Sales were made of 1,000 ⅌s country lard, at 14c ⅌ ⅌ for hams; 13½c ⅌ ⅌ for shoulders; and 24 kegs country lard at 12½c ⅌ ⅌.

LARD OIL—Sales from manufacturers of 25 bbls No. 1 lard oil at $1 10, and 10 bbls No. 2 at 95c, reported.

FLOUR—The market is firm and active. We note sales of spring wheat brands at $14@14 50, as per quality, and winter at $14 75@15 ⅌ bbl. Stocks light. The receipts to-day were insignificant.

GRAIN—There has been no change in prices of grain since our last. No. 2 spring wheat, the only kind worth speaking of in the market, and it is in large light supply, is quoted at $2 80@2 90 ⅌ bushel. One car shelled corn, in Elevator r, sold at $1 ⅌ bush. One car rye, from store, sold at $1 50 ⅌ bush; and one car of barley at $1 60 ⅌ bush. 200 bush oats, to arrive, sold at 65c ⅌ bush.

POTATOES—One car of Peachblows on the track, sold at 95c ⅌ bushel. Sales of seed Buckeye at $1 25 ⅌ bbl.

Groceries.

Business in groceries brisk, with a firm market for coffee and a slight advance on Sugar. New Orleans molasses and sugar scarce and held at high figures. When the present stock is sold it is thought that no more will be brought to this market.

COFFEE—Old Government Java, 36c; Laguayra, 27c; Rio, choice, 28c; prime, 27c; good, 26c; roasting, 25c.

SUGARS—New Orleans, choice, 14½c; Porto Rico, 14½c; A do, 14½c; extra C, 14½c.

MOLASSES—New Orleans, 86c; Porto Rico, 80@90c; Cuba, 75c.

SYRUP—Loverings, $1 10; other choice brands, $1 00; fair to good, 65@80c.

TEAS—Young Hyson, common to finest, $1 00@1 90; Imperial and Gunpowder, do, $1 25@2 25; Japan, 1 00@1 25; Oolong, 90c@1 60.

RICE—Carolina, 11½@12c; Rangoon, 10½@11½c.

Dried Beef, ⅌ lb	25
Breakfast bacon	18@20
Hams	17 to 18
Green Hams	15
Shoulders, ⅌ lb	13
Sides, clear	15
Corned Beef	10 to 12

POULTRY AND GAME.

Geese, each	75 to 1 25
Dressed Ducks, per pair	1 00 to 1 50
Dressed Chickens, per pair	75 to 1 75
Turkeys, each	2 00 to 2 50

SPICES OF A PURE QUALITY.

Cinnamon, ⅌ lb	$1 00 Cassia
Alspice, ⅌ lb	40 Pepper, ⅌ lb
Ginger, ⅌ lb	40 Mace, ⅌ lb
Cloves, ⅌ lb	75 Nutmegs, ⅌ lb
Pepper, ⅌ lb	50 Mustard
Cassia, ⅌ lb	40 Jamaica Ginger, ⅌ lb

SUNDRIES.

Brooms, each	25 to 50 Coal, bush
Shovels, each	150@200 Pine Apple Cheese
Baking Powders, ⅌ doz	Canton Ginger, ⅌ lb
Concentrated Lye, ⅌ box	Spices, ground
Soap, Family Washing ⅌ bottle	Rice Flour
Do Powder, ⅌ lb	Bird's Eye Pepper
Candles, ⅌ lb	Mixed Pickles
Matches, ⅌ gross	Pickled Onions
Starch, ⅌ lb	Sapolio
Indigo, ⅌ lb	Liquid Blue
Blacking, ⅌ box	Rennet, ⅌ bottle
Shoe Pegs, ⅌ lb	Concentrated Lye
Vinegar, ⅌ gallon	Soap, Castile

BROWN SHEETINGS AND SHIRTINGS.

Ansbor Sheeting	21
Cabot do	20½
Ohio Valley	19
Franklin 4-4	15½
Metropolitan 4-4	15
Park	18

BLEACHED GOODS.

Canoe	11
Pacific	12½
Putnam F	15
Reynolds A A	17½
Richmond	16½
Wamsutta	13
Lonsdale	16
Hebron	24

PRINTS.

Merrimack	17
Cocheco	15
American	16½
Richmond	16½
Wamsutta	13
Lonsdale	16
Dela

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 1867.

TERMS:

One copy, per year.....$2 00
In clubs of twenty, per year.....1 50
The cover settle to the getter-up of the club.

☞ THE DAILY COMMERCIAL *is circulated in all parts of the State, in Western Virginia, Ohio and adjacent States, and without comparison, is the best advertising medium in Pittsburgh.*

☞ THE COMMERCIAL *gives the only complete reports of the local markets published, and is accepted as authority by dealers at home and in all the principal cities.*

☞ THE COMMERCIAL *is sold everywhere in the cars; and by News Dealers at all the principal points. Price five cents a copy.*

☞ THE COMMERCIAL *solicits local correspondence, giving events of interest, concisely written; also, of improvements, inventions and personal movements.*

☞ THE COMMERCIAL *is the only paper in Pittsburgh that uses the telegraph freely. Its special dispatches are from correspondents selected for their intelligence and reliability.*

A SLEEPY SENTINEL.

We are highly gratified to discover that Philadelphia has all along taken a profound interest in the Railroad questions that have been before the Legislature during the past session. The *Gazette*, of that city, has had, no doubt in common with the rest of the press, the warmest sympathy with the people of the State on this subject, and it appeals to the Legislature, supporting its appeal by weighty and numerous reasons, to pass the Free Railroad bill, as introduced by MR. BIGHAM. It pronounces the bill that was passed, an emasculated one and "worse than useless," and praises Governor GEARY for vetoing it. And it gives the Legislature a strong dose of menace, which will send the thoughts of any of them who may think of making the venture for a re-election forward rather apprehensively to the fall campaign. The *Gazette* is strong in its expostulations with the Legislature. It tells members that they are mistaken, if they suppose the interests of Philadelphia are favored by the maintenance of a *chartist policy* in regard to the building of railways through the interior, and adds the following:

"We can assure them, on behalf of the capitalists, merchants, and the community at large, many corporations of this city, who one and all desire nothing so much as the free scope this proposed genuine free railroad law would afford for the development of the immense resources of the commonwealth, Philadelphia, now more than ever, feels that her own interests are inseparably identified with those of the great State of which she has ever been so proud to be the emporium and metropolis."

This is beautiful. But the funny thing about it is, that this forcible and clear utterance of the *Gazette* was not made till the Legislature had adjourned. The article would not have reached Harrisburg till the body was, at least, engrossed with the usual festivities of adjournment day—a sort of Legislative Harvest-home scene, it appears to have been. It was too late to listen to the Editors' excellent reasons for a Free Railroad Law, or to go back to their seats and pass it. But the members who have all winter opposed it will probably, on their return home, take time to reflect on what the *Gazette* tells them, that they have done a wrong to the city of Philadelphia, that they have disregarded the manifest will of the people of the State, and it is added—in irony we imagine—that they have done an "act of injustice to the Pennsylvania Railroad, to impose on it the gigantic task of building all the Railways that may be needed in the interior." The Philadelphia members who voted steadily against the Free Railroad law, will no doubt take the hint given about their blunder in relation to the interests of that city.

We did not think Philadelphia was so far from Pittsburgh that it should take months for the echo of the universal sentiment here to be given back there. The excellent logic of the *Gazette* pitched at the Legislature on its retreat from its Harrisburg campaign, has been made familiar to every body on the western slope of the Alleghenies, through the COMMERCIAL and the other journals. We have appealed to the Legislature, and with all the pungency we could impart to it, especially to the Philadelphia members, to desist from their opposition, and to pass the honest and proper bill. Had the journals of Philadelphia and the East, instead of looking on the contest almost in indifference, joined us in endeavors to get proper legislation, the Free Railroad bill might have been passed by the Legislature. The movement was in that direction, even without their aid, as the vote in the House that passed the bill and the increased vote for it in the Senate prove. The article of the *Gazette* to which we have referred, is a condensed and strong statement of our oft repeated utterances, during the session. But why was its publication delayed till the Legislature was virtually adjourned?

THE WORST OF ALL EPIDEMICS.

If the same number of deaths were produced by cholera, diphtheria, small-pox or hydrophobia, that are produced by drunkenness, the whole country would be in a state of alarm. Or if an epidemic insanity were to sweep through the land, accompanied with the symptoms and effects of intoxication, such as neglect of business, abuse of families, reckless waste and destruction of property, and the ruin of health, the entire community would be aroused to discover some remedy, to provide for individual safety and to protect the public interests. In either case, individual and combined efforts would be made with reference to those ends, and the wisdom and power and resources of the Government would be invoked to arrest or avert the terrible calamity. And while these efforts were made there would be heard on all sides and in all circles of society expressions of alarm for the danger and of sympathy for the victims of it.

The question of the right of government to ordain sanitary regulations, to remove exciting causes of disease, and to prohibit measures calculated to propagate it, would not probably be suggested, or, if it were, would be indignantly dismissed, in view of the general distress and danger. It is not likely that any argument would be raised against sanitary measures, on the ground of their interfering with the business of the undertaker and the grave digger. The deliverance of the country from the frightful calamity of pestilence and madness would so engross the humane principles of the community everywhere, that the matter of dollars and cents made in any traffic connected with them, would not receive a moment's attention. And especially would the money interest be repudiated with horror, if it were made in and by extending the public distress.

The community has the right that private individuals have, to protect itself from harm. The ravages of intemperance are producing widespread desolation in the community. Individuals and families are destroyed by it. The order and morals of the community are impaired by it. Enormous expense is laid by it upon the community. Nobody is benefitted. The public is, so far as it can be done by Government action, protected from danger from spurious money, from noxious drugs, from concealed weapons, from contagious diseases, and why should it not be from the calamity worse than either of them, the vice of intemperance.

THE Connecticut victory is, in the estimation of some in the successful party, "the biggest thing of the war." It is now a thing nearly a fortnight old, but is still doing duty in the Democratic press, as a supporter of the disconsolate and despairing party. They are so intent on this Connecticut victory, in which they were saved, as it were, with the skin of their teeth, that they do not see the Rhode Island, Ohio and Michigan elections, in which they were routed and beaten, after the old fashion. And they are carried away so completely with their unaccustomed joy, as not to discover the slender fountain from which they derive it, nor to consider that if Connecticut turned the tide of bad luck, that had for years set against them, Rhode Island and the other States have already sent it rushing on again in its old channels with augmented force. The hopes of the Democracy and the warnings of equivocal Republicans, drawn from that quarter, should be indulged only with great diffidence.

CONSOLIDATED PITTSBURGH.

The Philadelphia *Gazette* learns "with some surprise," that Senator BIGHAM'S Consolidation Bill has become a law. It thinks that "a measure so very important as this should have attracted some attention in Pennsylvania at least," but, it remarks, "thus far it has wholly escaped notice." Our contemporary, viewing the subject from a distance that enables it to obtain a clear view, and speaking from recent valuable experience, refers to the opposition to this measure as "small-minded," and the counterpart of that which was arrayed against the consolidation of Philadelphia with its suburbs. The *Gazette* concludes with the following favorable suggestions:

"In the year 1870 a new national census will be taken, and the question is whether Pittsburgh wishes to be again misrepresented. If she does, she has only to refuse to be consolidated, and the general estimate will place her below such cities as Louisville and Nashville, just as the multitudes do now, despite all that can be said against it. If, on the other hand, Pittsburgh and her suburbs should be consolidated into one municipal corporation, the census of 1870 will find her taking rank with St. Louis, Cincinnati and Chicago, and the world will learn that Pennsylvania contains two great cities, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, with immense material interests and an expansive capacity hitherto but little known. This consolidation would do more to develope the resources of Pittsburgh than any other measure that has been proposed for a long time."

BISMARCK AND BONAPARTE.

The French gentleman who presides over the destiny of the Gallic nation, and whose history, at once mysterious and full of success, has made him a sort of wonder in the world, has, at last, become confronted with a gentleman or the Teutonic race who is not in the least afraid of him—neither of his power nor of his cunning. The note of Count BISMARCK to the French Emperor has the tone and ring of the first NAPOLEON in his days of conscious power. It is a *demand* and on a delicate subject. It bears also an implied defiance. New times, indeed! the Emperor will be disposed to say, as he reads it. We imagine we see his brows knit and a flush of anger reddening his face, as he cons over the brief note requiring of him the reasons for his military preparations, and declaring him responsible for the consequences likely to ensue unless he desists at once from his warlike activity. Whether BISMARCK'S note shall stop the Emperor's preparations or hurry them on to completion, time will decide. And all the world is looking on to see whether he will succumb at the hold challenge, or whether it will determine him the more resolutely to go on.

THAT the Senate should have rejected the Genuine Free Railroad Bill, which came to that body from the House, excites no surprise, though it will only intensify the indignation everywhere felt, excited by previous action and the course of legislation generally. This Bill is the one originally introduced by Senator BIGHAM, and we are particularly pleased to notice that while only a month ago all but four Senators gave the Bogus Bill their votes, twelve are now found willing to vote for the genuine one. But two Democrats went for the bill; nine voted against it. Ten Republicans voted for it and ten against it. Had Senators, Republicans and Democrats, lived up to their professions and represented the known wishes of their constituents, the bill would have been carried with scarcely a vote in the negative. Certain of them flagrantly violated their pledges, and such we doubt not will be promptly and properly dealt with by their outraged constituents. Philadelphia and its surroundings went solid against the bill. Had the four Philadelphia Senators gone for it, a measure which would have conferred untold benefits on that city and the State at large would not have been lost.

We go to the people again on this question, and those members and Senators who shall be found wrong on the record will go down under the popular indignation which is already awakened against them.

The following is the vote in the Senate:

YEAS—12.

Bigham, R., Allegheny, Brown, R., Mercer, Cowden, R., Dauphin, Cowles, R., Potter, Davis, D., Berks, Graham, R., Allegheny, Lowry, R., Erie, Taylor, R., Beaver, Wallace, R., Cumberland, White, R., Indiana, Hall, R., Blair.

NAYS—18.

Barnett, D., Carbon, Connell, R., Philadelphia, Donovan, D., Phila., Fisher, R., Lancaster, Gazzam, D., York, Haines, R., Blair, Hopkins, R., Bradford, Landers, R., Bradford, Mann, D., Phila., McConaughy, R., Adams, Randall, D., Schuylkill, Ridgway, R., Phila., Rover, R., Montgomery, Schall, R., Lehigh, Straffgin, D., Lafayette, Shoemaker, R., Luzerne, Walker, R., Juniata, Wells, D., Union, Worthington, R., Ches.

BISMARCK AND BONAPARTE.

THE *Nation* takes up the case of MR. BARNUM—the successful showman and defeated Congressional candidate—to express some good ideas about the duty of respectable people when candidates are set up that are not respectable. It is useless, it says, to talk about the remedy being in attending primary meetings; there are ten thousand reasons why they will not; and if they did, we will add; the chances are they would be out-generaled by the professional wire-pullers.

Primary meetings and party caucuses, as they are conducted now-days, are not the places where decent men in general want to go; nor, as we have said, is it likely they would control results if they did go there. But there is one way they can effect results and produce reform in primary politics. We mean they can, in a body, and at all times, refuse to vote for an improper candidate; and by carrying their action a little further, they can insure the utter failure of the nicest plans ever laid in caucus. When once it becomes understood where a party nominates an unfit man for any station, there will surely be found enough decent men to take a stand that will insure certain defeat, our primary meetings will become affairs altogether different from what they now are, and we shall have candidates that may be safely elected. It may cost something at the outset, but the investment would prove to be a good one right speedily.

THAT bit of land in the Northwest which Mr. SEWARD lately bought of the Czar, has suddenly become famous. However bleak and barren it may be, no one can deny that it has produced a rank and luxuriant crop of newspaper articles. Esquimaux vanity would be delighted, did it know the many fine things said of the land of its birth and abode, of its stately points, its productive soil, its genial climate, its well filled rivers and seas. But then its other ear would burn, if it could hear the expressions of contempt and depreciation, of ridicule and censure, which the land and its purchase have called forth in other quarters. It is always so. California was a laughing stock in our own times, and so was Oregon. New England, and the Virginia plantations had their days of clouds and contempt. And Yankee shrewdness, we venture to predict, will make something new out of this new purchase, that is yet without a name. If half of what is spoken in its favor, and not more than half of that spoken in disparagement be true, it is worth all that was given for it. It will soon cease to be a *terra incognita*. Exploration will ere long dissipate doubt and uncertainty of its character.

ONE of the most important bills to Pittsburgh, locally, which passed the Legislature at a late day in the session, is the bill to extend the Pittsburgh and Erie Railroad to our city by the way of Freeport and Pine Creek. The completion of this link is a matter of great importance to Pittsburgh, and the passage of this act, after so many failures, is a matter for congratulation, not only on the part of those having the enterprise especially in charge, but our business community generally. The bill, we understand, was taken charge of by Senator GRAHAM, and for his successful efforts many thanks are due.

THE brief investigations which have resulted from the consideration of the Russian Treaty, have added greatly to the stock of previous information of the country in question. Of its great value no serious doubt seems to be entertained. It is interesting to note the fact, that the opinion of the value of the country now ceded, is deemed by the opponents of the treaty about what California was held to be worth when it first came into our hands,—and another interesting fact is, Mr. SEWARD was conspicuous among those who decried the acquisition, and mainly on account of the poverty of the country, even after the gold discovery.

THE suspicion that a secret treaty has been entered into between Prussia and Russia is gaining strength in the best informed European circles. This fact, it is believed, is at the bottom of BISMARCK'S note to NAPOLEON. There are other grounds for this suspicion. It is known that the Prussian Minister at St. Petersburg has received important instructions; and sundry intimations by BISMARCK are construed into a significant confirmation of this view. Such an alliance would have a look offensive not only to France but to England also; since it would contemplate the future of Turkey and the avenging of Sebastopol. Such an understanding would put England and France to the test. While the former finds in the arrogance of BISMARCK towards NAPOLEON enough to chuckle over, the idea of an alliance between Prussia and Russia, with designs on the "sick man," excites in the English mind quite another feeling. Added to this, we have the remarkable assurance that Austria, in the hour of danger, will stand by Germany. What next shall we hear of BISMARCK'S combinations?

THE late "Conservative" meeting in Chattanooga, composed of one hundred blacks and three hundred whites, by whom resolutions denouncing BROWNLOW, the radical candidate for Governor, were adopted, was a notable variation in the current of general politics in the South. Though not very important in itself, it goes to show that as there were colored people on the side of the rebellion, so in settling the question growing out of it, there are those who side with those who resist the revolution it inaugurated. That the newly enfranchised population will be a perfect unit cannot reasonably be expected. Considering everything, and especially the character of the influence brought into play to win them to the cause of the South, the only wonder is that more of them are not found yielding to it.

THE *Tribune*, *Times* and other leading New York journals are denouncing the legislature of that State for the extent and utter shamelessness of the corruption which has characterized the present session. In view of what is said and known the inquiry is forced on us—how is it to be explained that men of fair standing at home so suddenly become corrupt when they go to the legislature? In New York they say the lawyers are most numerous in legislative bodies, but the testimony is that gentlemen from the rural districts, classed as farmers, have the easiest virtue and are the most greedy to make money corruptly. We believe this as a rule holds good elsewhere, and it is one of the puzzling things connected with experience in such matters.

THE comments by the London *Times* and *News*, on the cession of Russian America to the United States, display anything but a quiet mind. England would protest, we are told, if it had a right to do so, and no attempt is made to disguise the importance of the transaction. The language of these two leading journals discloses the dissatisfaction that exists in the English mind—a feeling that experiences no relief from the fact that it would be utterly useless to make a display of it.

THE selection of Senator GRAHAM to be Speaker of the Senate is a distinguished mark of confidence from his associates in that body, but fairly earned, we may presume, by his faithfulness in the discharge of his duties as a legislator, and his fitness for the position. It is also a compliment to Allegheny county and Western Pennsylvania—all the more noticable for the unanimity with which the selection was made.

THE pay of the members of the Legislature for the session that has just ended was not advanced, the proposition to that effect having failed. The pay at the last was the same as at the preceding session.

IT is doubtful if the Great Eastern will be able to obtain the desired complement of three thousand passengers from New York, the fact being that not a great many persons are applying for passage. The threatenings of war in Europe, and the uncertainty of affairs in France and Germany, will not add to the desire of Americans to cross the ocean. On the other hand, the advantages and enjoyment of a voyage in such a ship will be very attractive to hundreds, and with good management here and good accounts from Paris, it may be possible before the close of the month to secure for her the proper complement of passengers.

THAT the spirit of sound conservatism is not wanting in these regions, consigned by our sanctimonious friends of the Democracy to the dismal shades of Radicalism, is apparent in the style of improvements now going on in our city in the form of new, or rather renovated, erections. It is truly touching to observe the veneration for the old, the tried, the rich in associations of the past, so fully illustrated in the ingenious devices, sometimes involving no small amount of daring, to which they resort to retain at least a half dozen plank or timbers or a few square yards of shingles, to be incorporated into the new structure. "Woodman, spare that tree!"

THE two great departments of industry do not appear, at present, to be well balanced. In the former, labor is scarce, while it seems to be in excess of the demand in the latter. The products also bear the same ratio to each other: those of the former being scarce in the market and bearing extraordinary prices, while those of the latter are abundant and are comparatively cheap. The results of these concurrent causes fall heavily on those concerned in manufactures, making employment uncertain and reducing wages while subsistence maintains its former high prices. This condition of things cannot last long. Equalising and compensative influences will effect a change that will be advantageous all round.

LORD ASHBURTON'S visit to Washington will long be remembered. He wrote to Mr. Webster to rent him furnished lodgings, and the Secretary of State hired for him the house of Matthew St. Clair Clark, who had been for some years Clerk of the House of Representatives. It is a spacious mansion (now occupied by Secretary Welles), fronting on Lafayette Square, and Mr. Webster agreed to pay $1,000 a month for the use of it, agreeing that Lord Ashburton would keep it at least one year. He occupied it ten months and paid $12,000 rent, with an extra $1,000 for damages done to the furniture, etc.

PENNSYLVANIA MAIL LETTINGS.—The following postal contracts, for carrying the mail, were awarded last week, the length of service being from July 1, 1867, to June 30, 1868: Route 2,862, Pittsburgh to Arsenal; John Lyons, $380. No. 2,864, Rochester to Beaver, William P. Alcorn, $315. No. 2,731, Tidioute to Perry; Peter Evans, $800. No. 2,846, Erie to Union Mills; W. W. Robinson, $189. No. 2,871, Petroleum Center, to Cherry Tree; Wm. Stuley, $195. No. 2,896, Connenautville to Pennsylvania Line; O. H. Seager, $96. No. 2,897, Petroleum Center to Plummer; John W. McClure, $500. No. 2,904, Titusville to South West; W. H. Caswell, $550.

THE report that a new difficulty had arisen between the governments of the United States and England about the Alabama claims, has been denied by Lord Stanley on the floor of the House, and all the regrets and censures expended on the strength of the report are just so much lost emotion. That and all other questions between the two governments are said to be in a satisfactory shape.

THE recent intelligence from Washington has created a panic in the ice market. Prices are working downward, with small hope of recovery. We hear of a stock company proposed to construct suitable steam tugs, to bring around the Horn an iceberg, in bulk, from our new territory in the Northwest. The days of forestalling and monopoly in this product of American industry are numbered.

IN Philadelphia, in the absence of efficient Governmental protection against the frauds so unblushingly practiced in the whisky traffic, dealers most interested in the article have taken the matter in hand, and by mutual agreement have pledged themselves, each to the other, not to countenance or encourage the fraud manifest in offers to sell whisky or alcohol below the cost of the tax imposed by the Government.

our Imports.

The import entries for March, 1867, at New York, compare as follows with the corresponding month of the previous year, viz:

	March, 1867.	March, 1866.
Dutiable goods, direct	$11,373,974	$15,200,809
Dutiable bonded	9,069,756	9,339,100
Free goods	923,377	1,179,177
Total March entries	$21,367,107	$25,919,086

There was also entered during the month foreign specie to the value of $145,867, as against $285,854 same month in 1866. The value of foreign merchandise of previous importation withdrawn from bond $13,318,411, or $4,248,655 more than went into bond during the month, so that the amount of merchandise actually marketed during the month, dutiable and free, is $25,615,762, on which the gold customs collected amount to $11,977,418, or at an average rate of duty on all the marketed imports (including free articles) of 46¾ per cent. The amount marketed in March, 1866, was $24,224,630, and the customs $11,173,154.

The comparative value of foreign goods entered at the port of New York, and of foreign goods actually marketed during the nine months of the fiscal years 1867 and 1866 were as follows:

	1866-7. July 1, to March 31.	1865-6. July 1, to March 31.
Total entries	$202,555,175	$228,185,419
Total marketed	$204,091,811	$212,631,142
Customs paid	93,447,657	100,696,241
Average Tariff	45¾ P cent.	46¾ P cent.

In addition to the above there was entered of foreign specie, during the nine months of the fiscal year 1867, $8,806,920, against $1,602,205 for the same period in 1866.

The actual monthly consumption (or values marketed) of Foreign Merchandise at New York in 1866 and 1867 will compare as follows:

FOREIGN GOODS MARKETED AT NEW YORK.

	1866-7. July 1 to Feb. 28.	July 1 to Feb. 18.
July	$24,288,194	$19,675,662
August	20,401,619	20,401,619
September	20,109,163	25,586,666
October	24,071,939	21,852,068
November	17,748,789	22,054,410
December	15,560,969	18,041,265
January	21,145,190	27,219,868
February	20,077,432	20,560,204
March	25,615,762	24,224,590
Total nine moths	$204,091,614	$212,631,132

Return Ramrod.

That slender appendage to firearms, which the soldier always finds so awkward to handle, and so troublesome to keep in time of battle, is destined to go into oblivion. Although war has been one of the world's principal branches of business, it has never known, till Jonathan taught it, at which end of a gun it is best to introduce the charge. The great powers are now altering their fire-arms from muzzle to breech-loaders. More than two millions of their muskets are undergoing the operation now. No more cartridge biting, no more drawing ramrod in the smoke and the breech loading. Great are the improvements in war. Great is the triumph of mechanical science. All that remains to be achieved is to load the guns by machinery and to fire them by electricity. War will then have reached the pinnacle of perfection since all the noise could still be retained, and armies of vulnerable and mortal man could be dispensed with on both sides.

WILKES'S *Spirit*, referring to the match between Hamill and Brown, says the latter "is at Portland, taking his work in a new boat, built for him by Stephen Roberts, of Harlem. This boat is a very fine specimen of racing craft. She is thirty-one feet long, thirteen inches and a half wide, and weighs thirty-seven pounds. We saw it before it was sent on East, and we do not think that it can easily be surpassed. If Brown is as good as our correspondent 'Rifle' thinks him, it will trouble the champion to beat him. He is a powerful young man, and his improvement has been steady."

MR. FREDERICK KAPP, in an article to the *Historical Magazine* for March, charges Jared Sparks with "falsifying the record of Washington's life and of American history," and says it is in his personal knowledge that Mr. Sparks suppressed some passages in certain autograph letters of Washington and tampered with others, in order to make him appear more devoted as a Christian and more conversant with the requirements of modern propriety than he really was. Mr. Kapp promises to vindicate the subject hereafter.

A RICHMOND correspondent of the *Tribune* writes that "all the efforts of the Conservatives to elicit from the Freedmen any expression of their purpose, in the matter of voting, seem to be unavailing. Not an intimation has so far been thrown out by any number of them, that could furnish even a clue as to how they shall vote. They certainly keep their own secrets, and I am satisfied the question of how they shall vote will remain a mystery, which can only be solved by the results of the elections.

A LONDON letter by the last steamer says: For some reason emigration has taken a new start; Germans and Irish are crowding to America, the Scotch are taking possession of Jamaica, and so many Italians are leaving Genoa for South America that the country districts are becoming depopulated and the government may be obliged to interfere. For the right of emigration is not altogether acknowledged. Some governments claim military service. The Italians run away from the conscription and taxation, but if the people go, the country is ruined.

EMIGRATION TO MONTANA.—The Oil City *Register* announces that a large number of the citizens of that place contemplate leaving there this spring for the gold fields of Montana. They propose to take boat at Oil City, and proceed from thence to the head of navigation on the Missouri and Platte rivers, from whence they will proceed overland to their destination.

NEW SEMINARY AT CLARION.—The new seminary building to be erected at Clarion borough, Pa., will be of brick, three stories high, and one hundred feet long and sixty wide. A skillful Cleveland architect is preparing the plans and specifications, and the Board of Trustees expect soon to advertise for proposals from contractors. A boarding house in connection with the institution is also in contemplation.

THE Inman line of steamers last week invited Thaddeus Stevens to accept the Captain's state room of one of their vessels for a voyage to Europe, but he was too weak to undertake the trip. Though he may live years, yet the demise of Mr. Stevens any day would occasion no surprise to those who understand his condition best.

FOREIGN immigration into Virginia is destined to be a failure. The system of treatment practiced toward slaves is too deeply engrafted upon the Southern mind to render them capable of treating white laborers as they should. The present generation must pass away before the South can adapt itself to the requirements of white labor.

THE aplicants for Registers have been referred to the Marshal of the Supreme Court, merely to assort and make a brief in each case, stating the qualifications and recommendations from which briefs the Chief Justice will make his decisions.

THE hardest hit the Russian cession got was given by the Savan of the Smithsonian Institute, who said the climate of the new possessions was in winter "like that of Washington." Had he extended the comparison in like manner to the population, the treaty then in public estimation would have been instantly killed stone dead.

DUNKIRK, WARREN AND PITTSBURGH RAILWAY.—A bill was passed in the House of the New York Legislature last week to facilitate the construction of the Dunkirk, Warren and Pittsburgh Railway.

THE CROPS.—The Hanover, York county, Pa., *Spectator* says that the prospect of large crops in that section never looked brighter. If no heavy frosts occur about the time of blooming, the fruit crop will be very heavy.

IT seems to us not very complimentary, and not altogether fair in the *Tribune*, to assume that the treaty was carried by Mr. Seward's dinners, if not even more corrupting influences inhering with seven millions.

THE friends of the Hon. Thad. Stevens wish it to be stated that he has not been so ill as has been represented, but has been able to see his friends and transact business every day. His health has been feeble, but he is now well again.

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH stock has fallen in price in the New York market, during the present week, five to six dollars per share, and sold yesterday at 35½, again 41 at the close of last week.

IF the ratification of the Seward Treaty was procured by the blandishments with which the distinguished Secretary of State was able to bring to bear, it must be conceded that he has proven himself highly successful in that line.

A MOTION to strike from the Constitution of New Jersey the word *white* failed in the House by a vote of 20 to 35. Thirteen Republicans voted in the negative.

IT is said that Mr. McCulloch expects gold will fall below the present mark, and that he does not take much stock in the excitement growing out of European war rumors.

IT is said Gen. Halleck will take possession of the Russian Territory, when the country is delivered over to its new owners.

THE pardon of Z. B. Vance, late Governor of North Carolina, was recommended by forty Senators and members of Congress, including Thaddeus Stevens.

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

The New York *Herald* makes the startling announcement that "the railroad companies are running riot in the plenitude of their influence. They are buying up the Legislature, buying up Aldermen, buying up parks and squares, and, in short, propose to buy up everybody and everything." Is the *Herald* included?

A woman named Finn, who was far advanced in pregnancy, was gored to death by a mad cow at Highland Falls, near West Point, last week. Her entrails were torn out and a male child was released from its natural fastenings. It is still alive and gives every symptom of growing up.

A very large white pea is grown near Shanghae, China, from which oil is extracted for burning. So extensively is this article used that from Shanghae alone two million pounds worth is yearly distributed over China. This liguminous plant is called teuss.

The Cunard proprietors have launched on the Clyde an iron screw steamer of the class of the China, to be called the Russia. She will be followed by the Sumatria, already commenced.

Never has so much interest been centered upon South America as at present. A great many vessels are on their way to the east coast and the Amazon, and an unusual number are advertised. It is probable that a great advance will be made this summer in the exploration of the interior and the opening up of commerce.

English workmen are instigating and aiding strikes on the Continent, because they wish aid and co-operation in return. But this sometimes works curiously. Some time ago the Paris hatters had a strike, and the London hatters sympathized with and helped them; but the Paris dealers were all the time supplied with English made hats!

At the Paris Exposition it is said that a novelty will be on exhibition, in the shape of an artificial horse. The ingeniously constructed animal, when ready for the road, will travel twenty-five miles without stopping, and afterwards may be wound up in a few moments so as to go as much further, and so on indefinitely. A horse like this must be a valuable acquisition provided it can be bought as cheaply as the noble animal of which it is a copy.

Says a London letter: The Fenians in Ireland have really behaved like gentlemen, and are a credit to their supposed American origin and training. The other night a party went to a country mansion and demanded arms. They were refused. "Excuse me," said the leader, "but it is absolutely necessary that we should have them, and if you do not open the door, I shall be under the disgraceful necessity of breaking it in; but I will injure the lock as little as possible." On this the door was opened, and one of the men, carefully cleaning his feet on the scraper and door-mat, went in and helped himself to the arms, when the party quietly left.

There is a general movement among the employers and workmen in Chicago, in anticipation of the enforcement of the eight hour law, which takes effect on the first of May. There is an almost universal determination among the workingmen to insist upon an enforcement of the law. Many of the large manufacturing establishments are making arrangements to close their business in the event of a strike by their employees. They argue that they cannot compete with establishments in other parts of the country, where the eight hour law is not in existence, and they will go to those points and purchase their goods, rather than make them themselves.

Samuel Ketchum, ex-Treasurer of Coshocton county, Ohio, has been indicted for embezzling, forgery and perjury, and Jim Brown, his accomplice, for embezzlement of public funds alone. Both are out on bail in the sum of $14,000 each. The Sheriff was not implicated.

Among the latest mining news on the Upper Missouri is the discovery of very rich and extensive copper deposits in the valley of the Musclesheli, about sixty-five miles from Helena, Montana. Men who formerly worked in the celebrated Copperopolis lode of California say that the deposits ranging from appearances are the richest they ever knew. This is an item of importance to boatmen, as the ore will most likely be smelted in St. Louis.

The Mississippi river is open to Dubuque, the first steamer from below arriving there Monday.

The Montana *Herald* of the 18th ultimo says the Sioux, Crows, Blood, Pegulns and Grosventre Indians have formed a league against the whites. The first named tribe is camped 35 miles from Fort Smith—1,500 lodges and 5,000 warriors. The others number 900 lodges and 3,400 warriors.

A fatal disease has broken out among the sheep in some parts of Illinois. A *post mortem* examination reveals the presence of parasites in the stomach.

The Boston *Commercial Bulletin* gives as its *bon mot*: "Against the grain—the weevil, speculators, and want of cheap transit."

The sidewheel steamer Quaker City has been chosen to carry General Sherman, Henry W. Beecher and the excursion party to the Mediterranean and the Holy Land next summer.

The Newman (Georgia) *Herald* says that two widows and their families in Coweil county, occupying the same house, were reduced to such destitution as to compel an allowance of only three mouthfuls of corn bread at each meal. In consequence, one person has perished from starvation.

At the municipal elections in Denver, Central City, and Black Hawk, Colorado, on the 1st, colored citizens were allowed to vote without intimidation.

Advices from Lake Superior to the 1st instant, report the weather as moderating, but the lake was full of ice, and snow covered the ground.

Some persons may feel an interest in the fact that the new evening gloves are of the lightest lemon color, made with long wrists, with eight gilt buttons, and embroidered on the back with flowers in silk, a shade darker than the gloves. They are very pretty and taylish, and will soon be the height of fashion.

The Young Men's Christian Association of Chicago furnishes funds to pay the postage on all letters that are dropped into the postoffice without stamps, through carelessness or otherwise, and thus prevents their being sent to the dead letter office. A printed slip is affixed to each letter informing the recipient how the postage was paid, and inviting him to contribute to the association, and sometimes the response is quite generous.

As we have been pleased to learn that England will not be angry with us for annexing Russian America, we are now pleased to learn that France is entirely unconcerned about the matter. The *Courier des Etats Unis* tells us that "France can witness this new aggrandizement of the Union with *parfait disinteressement*. It is not here that France is interested; and she has enough to occupy her attention in other quarters without getting angry about such an affair." It would seem, therefore, that the entire world that is to say, France, England, Russia and America—are suited with the Seward treaty.

The Methodist Conference in session in New York city have adopted a report, deprecating the increase of worldly amusements among us—such as dancing, attendance at theaters, operas, circuses, negro minstrels, and the taking of such diversions as cannot be used in the name of the Lord Jesus. Resolutions were unanimously adopted, calling upon all Christian men and women to discountenance and refrain from all such pastimes.

The excitement of salmon fishing may be judged from the feelings of the Scot mentioned by Mr. Francis, a recent English piscatorial writer. The fisherman, while playing a magnificent game salmon, was apprised that his wife, in his cottage hard by, was dying. "Ah, mon, ye dinna say so. Rin back and tell her Joost to hing on till I've killed the fush."

Accounts from Montana give assurance of the great richness of the gold mines and success attending operations. The shipments from St. Louis to the mountain regions will fall considerably below last year.

The consolidation of the Western and Boston and Worcester railroads now seems likely to be speedily and amicably brought about. The bill before the Legislature concerning it has been remodeled, the Boston and Worcester Road has withdrawn its opposition, and it will probably speedily pass both houses.

During the celebration at Richmond of the surrender of Lee's army, a few nights since, a colored orator named Fuller said "he had no use for any white man who did not want him or any other colored man to marry his daughter." Thereupon two impulsive Union girls, Miss Carrington and Miss Van Lew, made their way through the crowd and shook hands with the speaker in token of their approval of his lofty sentiments. The affair creates much excitement in white society at Richmond, as well it may.

A Springfield dispatch announces the arrival at Springfield of 20,000 pounds of beet sugar from Chatsworth, Illinois. Nearly 100,000 pounds of this sugar has been manufactured at Chatsworth during the past season, under exceedingly unfavorable circumstances.

A distiller named Freninger, operating at Rock Island, has been cheating the Government to a large extent, by shipping whisky to Chicago and other points at night and on Sundays, during the absence of the Inspector. It has been ascertained that twenty-nine thousand gallons, valued at fifty-eight thousand dollars, were clandestinely disposed of in this way. He has been overhauled by a Treasury Department agent.

At a fire in Cincinnati the other night a vast amount of whisky flowed into the river; mingling with the water, it got into the reservoir and thence into the pipes, so that all the city had grog free. Says the *Gazette*: Never was there so much grog mixed in one day, and it would have been a grand time for those who do not believe in surprising their stomach with water unmixed with whisky, but for the fact that the proportion of water thrown in was above the standard, and the grog was weak.

A very decided ill feeling is growing up among the poorer classes of Paris, and particularly among the laboring population, arising from the enormous augmentation in the prices of all the ordinary articles of consumption, attributable in general to the expensive improvements making in Paris, and in particular to the near approach of the opening of the Exhibition. It is well known to be the policy of the Emperor, so far as domestic affairs are concerned, to keep Paris contented and tranquil, with the firm faith that the provinces will act with it. And Paris is regarded by him as the great central heart of the nation, whose pulsations are felt in its remotest extremities.

At Junction City, Kansas, on the 8th inst., a man named William Moore, while seated at the breaktast table with his wife and children, drew a revolver and shot his wife dead. In about two hours after shooting his wife, he obtained a pillow, laid his wife's head upon it, laid down on the floor beside her, and deliberately shot himself through the head with the revolver, and died in a few minutes.

The Jews of Chicago have held a meeting to denounce the insurance companies which make discrimination against them because they are Jews. Resolutions were passed not to patronize the companies which make this discrimation, nor give any business to agents who have the obnoxious companies on their lists.

The loss by the burning in Cincinnati of Foote, Nash & Co.'s distillery exceeds $300,000. The insurance amounts to $146,000, only one-third of which falls on local companies.

The third semi-annual Convention of General Freight Agents was held last week in Cincinnati. The Convention adopted a resolution affirming their position not to grant return passes to drovers under any circumstances.

General trade in New York is more active than it was, though that is not saying much. The hardware, drugs and medicine and boot and shoe dealers are executing considerable orders on Southern and Southwestern account. The West as yet lags behind, while from the East and the Canadas there are but few buyers.

On Thursday the Great Eastern had about 150 passengers thus far engaged, but she will probably double or treble that number before she sails on Tuesday next. (She would accommodate 1,500, if need be.) No more visitors are permitted on board—a great disappointment to people who are coming from the country, in excursion parties, expressly to see her.

The London *Times*, in another powerful article, on March 20th, urges the English Government to pay the Alabama claims, and says that the cause of difficulty between Great Britain and the United States should long since have been removed.

Counterfeit five cent pieces are plenty. The only perceptible difference between them and the genuine is the omission of the rays between the stars surrounding the figure 5. They appear to be made of as good metal as the genuine, probably because the counterfeiters could find no baser metal.

The receipts for the Ristori entertainment in Cleveland were $3,109 50, which is the largest amount of money ever taken at the box office of the Academy for a single performance.

A schooner has reached Cleveland from the Canada side. At Buffalo this proves that navigation will open about the first of May.

A sermon was preached in New York, on Sunday last, by the Rev. Mr. Blanchard, on the subject of amusements, during which he stated that a man needed recreation in order to develop his spiritual nature, and that it was better for the church to take charge of those recreations than for the devil to have them in his hands.

When the State Constables called at a saloon at Westfield, Massachusetts, the other day, the proprietor slipped the chain from a large black bear which he keeps, and retired to an anteroom to await results. The officers opened the door and the bear courteously advanced to give them a friendly embrace. The door was quickly shut again, and no sign of a constable has been seen around the place since.

The journals of Italy are calling the attention of the government to the immense number of emigrants constantly leaving that country for South America, and complain that during the last levy for the army not a single individual capable of bearing arms was found in some of the towns.

The Ohio Legislature on the 10th appropriated $5,000 towards building a monument to the late General McPherson, one of the noblest and best of American heroes. The Copperheads conditionally voted against the appropriation.

Under orders from Washington, two revenue inspectors have arrived at Nashville for the purpose of stopping all distilleries in that section. A greater service could not be done than by making the action universal.

P